

Q. For efficient industrial development India needs a good transportation system. Analyse some recent developments in this regard and associated benefits. 15 Marks

From the time of **Sher Shah Suri**, the effectiveness of road transportation was very high which was further highlighted when **Lord Dalhousie** initiated railway transportation in India. While from Mauryans and Guptas, India knows the **significance of water transportation**. The same transportation provides **backward and forward linkages** to India's industrial development.

As per **Weber** any industry can be located at least cost location and this is provided by **good transportation network**. For example, **the location of iron and steel industry is always near to the location to the iron ore and coal**. [Here, diagram of Weber's industrial triangle is to be made]

In 21st century when India is moving towards \$5 trillion economy, it is a prerequisite that India should work towards **10% industrial growth rate with 25% contribution in national GDP** and it is possible only when we have efficient transportation. Road and other means of transportation are like the **artery system of the body** which provides blood and nutrition to the organs.

In recent years government came out with a comprehensive strategy of **Bharatmala, Sagarmala, ro-ro services**, even the construction of **industrial corridors**. [A diagram of Indian map showing, industrial corridor from Delhi to Mumbai, western DFC, Godavari waterway and various industrial clusters.]

Budget 2019 for 1st time gave the national waterway policy which talks of development of 111 waterways. **Sagarmala talks of connectivity of minor ports and development of coastal economic zones**. While National Highway Development Policy directed towards 4 and 6 laning

of highways.

All these policies are targeted towards industrial development by providing benefits of:

- 1. Efficient backward and forward linkages**
- 2. Decreasing transportation cost vis-a-vis inflation will decrease**
- 3. Post-harvest management**
- 4. It will control rural to urban migration.**
- 5. Utilization of locally available labour and resources**
- 6. Generation of good amount of GDP**

Infrastructure development results in effective resource mobilization and there is a need that we should control incremental capital output ratio and time and cost overrun.

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