

Transportations System in India: A Review

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Abstract- Transport plays a very crucial role in Indian Economy. This was because of the efforts of the successive governments of the Congress that India was able to develop a strong network of Road, Railways, Aviation and Water transport. After independence India has progressed a lot as far as freight and public transport are concerned. India has achieved many world-class milestones in aviation, railway and road transport. Only the veteran leaders of the Congress party with their vision could be credited for these achievements.

Key words- Transport, Economy, Indian, achievements etc.

I. INTRODUCTION

Transport plays an important role in today's modern world. It helps in removing the distance barrier. An efficient transport system is essential for sustainable economic development of the country and plays a significant role in promoting national and global integration. An efficient transport helps in increasing productivity and enhances competitiveness of the economy. Efficient transport is indispensable to the economic development of nation. There are various modes of transport that include road transport, rail transport, water transport, and air transport.

II. FORMS OF TRANSPORT

1. Road Transport:

It is the oldest form of transport. It includes various means such as bullock cart, tempo, auto rickshaw, busses, car etc

The advantages of road transport are as follows:

- It facilitates door-to-door service
- Road transport is highly flexible. The route can be changed anytime.
- It is economical for short distance.
- There are less overheads and less cost in terms of maintenance.
- It provides personalized service.

2. Rail Transport:

The following are the features of rail transport:

- It is suitable for bulky goods.
- It is economical for long distance.
- There is regularity in the operation of train.
- There is less pollution, as the train operates on electricity.
- There is uniformity in rates as the rates are fixed by the government.

2. Water Transport:

India is surrounded by the Bay of Bengal, the Arabian Sea and the Indian Ocean. Therefore it has a long coastline. Water transport refers to movement of goods and passengers on waterways.

With the help of these means goods and passengers are carried to different places, both within as well as outside the country.

The following are the features of water transport:

- Water transport plays an important role in international trade.
- It possesses high load carrying capacity.
- It is a relatively economical mode of transport for bulky and heavy goods.
- Water transport does not require any special infrastructure like roads, and airport.
- Sea transport requires large investment on ships and their maintenance.

3. Air Transport:

Air transport is of recent origin in the development of transport system of a country. Air transport provides the fastest practical means of transportation. Indian air transport is one of the fastest developing aviation sectors of the world.

The following are the features of Air transport:

- Air transport is the most modern and the quickest mode of transport.
- Air transport is very expensive, as the operating costs of aeroplanes are high.
- Air transport provides comfortable, efficient and quick transport service
- Air transport requires less investment on infrastructure.
- Air transport is free from physical barriers.
- It plays a significant role in the national defence of the country.
- Air transport is the most risky form of transport because the chances of accidents are greater in comparison to other modes of transport.

III. SIGNIFICANCE OF TRANSPORT:

Transport plays a significant role in the overall economic development. Transportation results into growth of infrastructure, industrialization and massive production.

Advancement in the transport sector has resulted into comfort and convenience. Well-functioning transportation systems form the basis for economic prosperity and social well being of societies.

1. Industrial growth:

Transportation and the Industrial development are interrelated. Without improved modes of transportation it would have been harder for the industrial producers to produce and then sell their goods to the wider markets.

Transportation facilitates movement of raw material and other requirement from the place of supply to the place of

production. Efficient transport is indispensable to the economic development of the nation.

2. Creates employment:

Transport also contributes to economic development through job creation. It creates both direct and indirect employment opportunities. In India, a sizeable portion of the country's working population is directly or indirectly employed in the transport sector.

It also facilitates movement of labors and thereby encourages employment resulting into industrial development and thereby economic development.

3. Creates place utility:

Transportation enables movement of commodities from the producer to the final consumer whenever and wherever they are demanded. It creates place utility. Transportation plays an essential role in the agricultural sector.

Agricultural requirements are made available to the farmer at a short span of time. It is an integral part of commerce. It gives place and time utility to goods by removing them from the place of production to the places where they are to be consumed.

4. Bring countries closer:

No country in the world is self-sufficient. They have to depend on one another to fulfil their requirements. Transportation has brought the countries closer. It not only caters to the need of mobility but also provides comfort and convenience.

Travelling is a part of our daily lives. People travel for business purpose, education purpose and vacation purpose etc. The transport system is doing a great job by easing the pain of covering vast distance of land thereby bringing the countries closer.

5. Serve several purposes:

Transportation provides access to natural resources and promotes trade, allowing a nation to accumulate wealth and power. Transportation also allows the movement of soldiers, equipment, and supplies during war.

Hence transportation is vital to a nation's economy as it serve several purposes. It includes the manufacture and distribution of vehicles, the production and distribution of fuel, and the provision of transportation services.

6. Stability in prices:

Goods can be transported to places where there is scarcity and the prices are high from places where there is surplus and the prices are low. Such transfer of goods from the place of surplus to the place of scarcity enables to stabilise the prices of the commodity. Thus stability of prices restricts the local producers to charge prices at their own will. This discourages monopoly and encourages competition.

7. Specialization and division of labour:

Transport increases the mobility of labour and capital, widens the market that leads to specialization and division of labour, which helps in stabilizing prices. Specialization provides employment to a very large number of persons.

It is only due to transport that modern industrial system and large-scale industries are in a position to develop. Without efficient transport it would not have been possible to procure raw material, gather large number of workers and distribute the finished goods.

8. Use of Economic resources:

Transportation enables society to enjoy advantages of specializations of resources, and the benefits of labour by making it possible for products to be brought great distance, thus avoiding the necessity for local production for all conceivable commodities of need.

Each economic region can thus concentrate upon the goods and services for which it is best adapted either through natural resources endowment or through historical development. It, thus, leads to a better economic use of available resources.

9. Standard of living:

Transportation raises the standard of living, making possible improved housing, clothing, food and recreation.

IV. RECENT DEVELOPMENT IN TRANSPORT SECTOR IN INDIA:

India's transport sector is large and diverse. There has lot of development taken place in the transport sector. Modes of transportation comprises of roadways, railways, water ways and airways. The development taken place in various means of transport is:

V. ROADWAYS IN INDIA:

Road network in India is one of the largest networks in the world. The country's road network consists of Expressways, National Highways, State Highways, Major District Roads, Other District Roads and Village Roads. Roads are the dominant mode of transportation in India.

They are an indispensable means of communication and has come a long way. It is today regarded as one of the most ideal and cost effective modes of transportation in India. The Indian Roadways play a crucial role in connecting the different parts of India.

Over the years after independence there has been an extensive development of the network; of roads. Major cities of the States and capital of the state are connected by state highways.

While District roads are connected with village roads. Village roads provide linkage to other roads in order to meet their daily needs and access to nearby markets. Roads are easily accessible to each individual.

Roads facilitate movement of both men and materials anywhere within a country. It helps in socio-economic

development as well as brings national integration. It provides linkages to other modes of transportation like railways, airways, and shipping, etc.

The Indian Roadways play a crucial role in connecting the different parts of India. Over the years after independence there has been an extensive development of the network of roads across the length and breadth of India.

Road network of India is the largest road network in the world. India has an extensive network of major and minor roads as well as a good number of well-maintained networks of national highways, connecting all major cities and tourist destinations.

The road transport industry in India has emerged as the dominant part of the transport system. The road transport mode in India has come to occupy a pivotal position in the overall transport system in India. This mode is estimated to have a share of about 80% in passenger transport and 60% in freight transport.

- the National Highways Development Project
- Special Accelerated Road Development Programme (SARD):
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VI. RAILWAYS IN INDIA:

Railways are today the predominant form of-transportation in India. The Indian Railways is among one of largest railway systems in the world. India's railroad system is the government's largest public enterprise. The Indian Railways is state-owned and operated by the Ministry of Railways.

Today, it has completed its glorious 150 years of services for the nation. Indian Railways is one of the largest railways under single management. It is one of the world's largest employers. Indian railways, the largest rail network in Asia and the world's second largest under one management.

VII. SHIPPING TRANSPORT IN INDIA:

Shipping transport is the process of moving people, goods, etc. by barge, boat, ship or sailboat over a sea, ocean, lake, canal, river, etc. Shipping plays an important role in the transport sector of India's economy.

Indian maritime sector facilitates not only transportation of national and international cargo but also provides a variety of other services such as cargo handling services, shipbuilding and ship repairing, freight forwarding, lighthouse facilities and training of marine personnel, etc.

In recent times, developments and advancements in sea transportation had great impacts on international trade. Shipping is a global industry and is closely tied to the level of economic activity in the world.

The demands for shipping activities are rapidly growing. The shipping corporation of India is the biggest Indian shipping company owned by the Government of India.

VIII. CONCLUSION

In today's globalising world, no country can develop itself on its own. Interdependence based on country's strengths and weaknesses are the key to success. Mutual benefits can be derived by directing the foreign policy in each other's favour. This does not necessarily mean that the country will compromise with its sovereignty. India's have complimentarily with each other and this region can be developed by cooperating with each other. This will have great impact on the standard of living of the regional population. The cost of non-cooperation is very high. The first step in this direction is by connecting each others transport infrastructure of the region.

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