

15.10.2021

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The success of the Gati Shakti digital platform will depend on breaking bureaucratic silos, ensuring states' participation

Pragati Ki Gati Bharat Ki Shakti

Connecting Pillars of New India

- To cover infrastructure initiatives like Bharatmala, Sagarmala, Ports, UDAN, Economic Zones, Railways etc
- Social infrastructure such as hospitals, universities to be integrated in the next phase
- To develop new possibilities for the creation of future economic zones

Pragati Ki Gati Bharat Ki Shakti

Making India the hub of world-class infra

- Comprehensive master plan mapping all existing/planned initiatives of Ministries
- Guide the creation of economic zones & connectivity infrastructure
- Help remove regional & sectoral imbalances in infrastructure & connectivity
- Aid faster growth of key sectors, employment generation & spearheading growth

A Giant Stride in India's \$5 Trillion Economy Goal

Gati Shakti National Master Plan

Multimodal Connectivity Infrastructure to various Economic Zones

Targets upto 2024-25 for Ministry of Shipping

- Increase in Cargo capacity at the Ports to 1,759 MMTPA from 1,282 MMTPA in 2020
- Cargo movement on all National Waterways will be 95 million MT from 74 million MT in 2020
- Cargo movement on Ganga to be increased from 9 to 29 million MT

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PM Gati Shakti

National Master Plan for New India

- Aatmanirbhar Defence industry
- 197 mega food parks & agro-processing centres
- 4G mobile connectivity in all villages by 2022
- Renewable energy capacity expansion
- Extension of transmission network
- 220 airports, helicopters and water aerodromes
- 1,600 million tons of Cargo in Railways

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PM Gati Shakti

1. PM Gati Shakti is a National Master Plan for multi-modal connectivity. The scope of the government's latest initiative is expansive, the targets ambitious.
2. It will integrate road, railway, airport and multi-modal connectivity projects across the country, incorporating a range of existing infrastructure projects of the government such as Bharatmala, Sagarmala, inland waterways, dry/land ports, and UDAN.
3. It promises to greatly enhance the national highway as well as the electricity transmission networks, increasing the cargo handling by railways and the cargo capacity at ports, and also setting up mega food parks, defence corridors, and electronics manufacturing clusters.
4. Considering the multiplier effects, timely implementation of such infrastructure projects, especially at the current juncture, could provide a notable boost to the economy.

Rationale:

1. The intent behind the initiative is straightforward. As public sector projects in India are marred by inordinate delays and cost overruns, there is a need to coordinate the planning and execution of infrastructure connectivity programmes across the country and speed up implementation in order to bring down logistics costs.
2. This could lower the inefficiencies in supply chains in India. A recent report by CII and Arthur D Little had estimated the logistics costs in supply chains in India at 14 per cent of GDP. In comparison, the report had pointed out that such costs amounted to only 8-10 per cent of the GDP in the US and Europe and 9 per cent in China.
3. In the case of South Asian countries like Vietnam and Malaysia, though the cost structures are similar to those existing in India, they fare better on the World Bank's logistics performance index.
4. Logistical inefficiencies not only cause delays but also add to manufacturing costs and lower the competitiveness of Indian exports.

Benefits of Gati Shakti:

1. Considering not only the multiplicity of approvals required from varied departments but also the typical inter-ministerial delays in the entire process, the need for a coordinated approach to streamline the process and minimise the bottlenecks cannot be emphasised enough.

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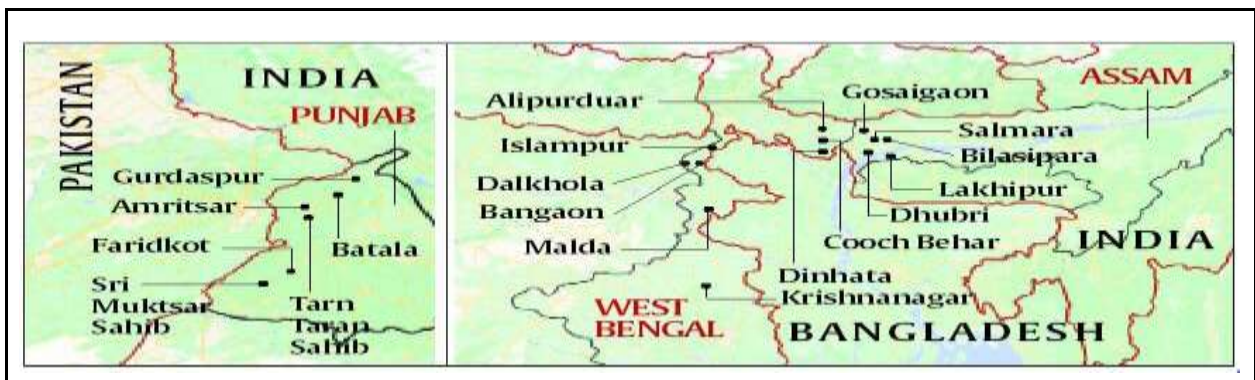
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2. By bringing together 16 ministries to help remove the hurdles in project implementation, the Gati Shakti digital platform could provide an effective mechanism for closely monitoring the public sector infrastructure projects.
3. This technology-led integrated approach could help align all stakeholders, ease the problems with attaining clearances and bring about greater coordinated action across government departments. But there are concerns.
4. For one, the effectiveness of a platform in ensuring better coordination among ministries is debatable — breaking down bureaucratic silos may prove to be harder than expected.

Then, critical to the success of some of these infrastructure projects will be the participation of state governments. The Centre will need to devise political interventions and ways to coax and incentivise state government participation and cooperation.

BSF powers and jurisdiction

- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has extended the jurisdiction of the Border Security Force (BSF) up to 50 km inside the international borders in Punjab, West Bengal and Assam.
- The BSF's powers — which include arrest, search and seizure — were limited to up to 15 km in these states. At the same time, the Ministry has reduced BSF's area of operation in Gujarat from 80 km from the border to 50 km.
- The move has been criticised by the Punjab and West Bengal governments, which have called it an attack on the federal structure and an attempt to curtail the rights of the state police.
- The government said it was exercising the powers under the Border Security Force Act of 1968.





The international borders in the three states where BSF's jurisdiction has been enhanced. While the places marked here are within 50 km of the respective borders, this is not meant to represent the BSF's jurisdiction. The BSF does not mark its jurisdiction on a map.

What kind of powers can the BSF exercise in this jurisdiction?

- 1. Its jurisdiction has been extended only in respect of the powers it enjoys under the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC), Passport (Entry into India) Act, 1920 and the Passport Act, 1967. BSF currently has powers to arrest and search under these laws.*
- 2. It also has powers to arrest, search and seize under the NDPS Act, Arms Act, Customs Act and certain other laws. Its jurisdiction under these laws has not been changed, meaning its powers under these will continue to be only up to 15 km inside the border in Punjab, Assam and West Bengal, and will remain as far as 80 km in Gujarat.*

Mission of BSF

MISSION :

- To maintain sanctity of the Border of India through eternal vigilance.
- To inculcate a sense of security by harnessing co-operation of the Border Population.
- To effectively deal with Internal Security Challenges whenever so tasked by the Govt.
- To achieve an effective combat capability by absorbing leading-edge technology, state-of-the-art training and user-friendly equipment.
- To evolve and implement a growth-oriented Personnel Management System aimed at instilling core values to satisfy the social, economic and psychological needs of the Force personnel.
- To effectively assist Civil Administration in Disaster Management and provide succor to the people.
- To effectively promote core values of Human Rights, pride and dedication to duty in the Force.

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Why and when were these powers given to BSF?

1. In 1969, the BSF first got powers to arrest and search under the CrPC with respect to certain laws such as the Foreigners Act, The Passport Act, forex laws and Customs Act.
2. At that time, border areas were sparsely populated and there were hardly any police stations for miles. To prevent trans-border crimes, it was felt necessary that BSF is given powers to arrest. While police stations have now come up near the border, they continue to be short-staffed.

Task:

- Promote a sense of security among the people living in the border areas.
- Prevent trans-border crimes, unauthorized entry into or exit from the territory of India.
- Prevent smuggling and any other illegal activities.
- Help civil administration in maintenance of public order.

Why has the government extended the jurisdiction?

1. Sources said the objective of the move is to bring in uniformity and also to increase operational efficiency. "Earlier we had different jurisdictions in different states. This has been done to bring uniformity to our jurisdiction.
2. Sources said BSF often gets information relating to crime scenes that may be out of their jurisdiction.
3. MHA sources said the move was also necessitated due to increasing instances of drones dropping weapons and drugs in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab. However, the kind of drones spotted so far do not have a range beyond 20 km.
4. There has been no official explanation for why BSF's jurisdiction has not been increased under the Arms Act, Customs Act and NDPS Act, which cover most of the smuggling offences on the border and deal with far greater offences.

Will it impact police jurisdiction?

1. At a basic level, the states can argue that law and order is a state subject and enhancing BSF's jurisdiction infringes upon powers of the state government.
2. This is not an attack on the federal structure. Rather this is going to complement the efforts of the local police. It is an enabling provision. It's

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not that the local police can't act within the jurisdiction of the BSF. It's just that sometimes we don't have enough time and so BSF has been empowered to act to a greater distance and in turn strengthen the hands of the state police.

- 3. Another officer pointed out that BSF cannot prosecute offenders in any case. "We can't file charge sheets. We have to hand over every arrested individual and every seized item to the state police or Customs.*
- 4. He pointed out that in the Northeast, BSF's jurisdiction runs throughout the states (other than Assam). But it does not affect state police functioning.*

