Cabinet approves the Integrated Transport and Logistics Authority (ITLA)

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News

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** approved the **Integrated Transport & Logistics Authority (ITLA)** on **6 October 2026**. It will be the **national apex body (a special purpose vehicle)** for integrated planning, research, project appraisal and monitoring in transport and logistics.

Key facts

Task	A **long-term integrated transport plan** covering roads, rail, ports, shipping, aviation, inland waterways, coastal shipping, urban mobility and logistics
Monitoring	Infrastructure projects **above ₹500 crore**
Tools	Policy support, research, **data analytics** for decisions
Problem solved	**Fragmented planning** by many separate ministries
Same-day decision	A **₹10,000 crore SME Growth Fund**

Background

- **PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan: 13 October 2021**; seven engines: roads, railways, airports, ports, mass transport, waterways and logistics infrastructure; a GIS-based digital platform.

- **National Logistics Policy: 17 September 2022**; aims to cut logistics cost to global levels; **ULIP** (Unified Logistics Interface Platform).
- **LEADS report:** published since 2018 by **DPIIT** (Commerce Ministry) to rank States on logistics; the **World Bank's LPI** ranks countries.
- **Sagarmala (2015):** port-led development; **Bharatmala (2017):** roads; **Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFC)**: Eastern and Western.

Tamil Nadu link: Tamil Nadu has three major ports: **Chennai (1881), Kamarajar (Ennore, India's first corporatised major port, 2001) and V.O. Chidambaranar (Thoothukudi)**. Projects such as the **Chennai–Bengaluru Industrial Corridor** and the **Salem–Chennai** corridor are key to its logistics growth.

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