Indian Economy · GS - III

Examine the role of integrated infrastructure development in promoting regional economic growth, urban mobility and inclusive development, with reference to recent infrastructure investments in Bihar.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 21/11/2026	GS - III	Indian Economy

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
15	~250 words

Answer Hint

Multimodal connectivity, industrial development, logistics efficiency, urban mobility, affordable housing, regional disparities, PM Gati Shakti, sustainable urbanisation.

Model Answer

Introduction

Infrastructure development is a key driver of economic growth, regional connectivity and employment generation. Recent investments in Bihar, including the proposed six-lane Nitish Mahasetu, industrial infrastructure and urban transport initiatives, reflect an integrated development approach.

Contribution to Regional Development

1. **Connectivity and logistics:** Bridges across major rivers improve regional accessibility, reduce travel time and facilitate movement of goods and people.
2. **Industrial growth:** Industrial areas can attract investment, promote manufacturing and strengthen local employment opportunities.
3. **Urban mobility:** Electric buses and improved bus terminals enhance public transport accessibility while supporting cleaner urban mobility.

4. **Inclusive development:** Housing initiatives such as PMAY-Urban improve access to secure shelter and basic urban services.
5. **Economic multiplier:** Infrastructure investment stimulates demand for construction materials, transport, labour and allied industries.

Challenges in Infrastructure-led Development

- Land acquisition and rehabilitation concerns.
- Delays in project execution and cost escalation.
- Unequal distribution of infrastructure benefits.
- Financial and operational sustainability of urban transport systems.
- Environmental impacts and inadequate maintenance.

Way Forward

Infrastructure projects should be aligned with PM Gati Shakti for coordinated planning and multimodal connectivity. Local employment, environmental safeguards, transparent project monitoring and effective urban governance must accompany capital investment.

Conclusion

Infrastructure development can transform Bihar's economic geography by connecting markets, attracting investment and improving living standards. Its success, however, depends on equitable access, timely execution and long-term sustainability.

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