Press Release: Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) 2024 Ranking

Gujarat tops the country for the sixth year in a row in LEADS ranking for efficiency in ease of logistics and cargo movement.

Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India has today released the ranking, for the year 2024, of different States in terms of availability of logistics infrastructure, ease of getting approvals and other state initiatives to promote logistics in the State. Continuing its tremendous progress, Gujarat has retained its position in the "Achievers" category, which is the top performing category of the ranking. Today Shri Piyush Goyal, Honourable Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Shri Jitin Prasada, Honourable Minister of State for Electronics & IT, Commerce & Industry released the "Logistics Ease Across Different State (LEADS) 2024" report and rankings in New Delhi. Both also gave recognition awards - Logistics Excellence, Advancement, and Performance Shield (LEAPS) – to innovative and top performing companies in various categories. This LEAPS award aims to foster innovation, raise awareness about sustainability, ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) practices, and Green Logistics.

Gujarat has previously achieved the first rank in the LEADS index for the three years 2018, 2019 and 2021. Thereafter, for last three years, the Ministry has been classifying the states in various categories based on performance, i.e. "Achievers", "Fast Movers" and "Aspirers", of which "Achievers" is the top most category. Gujarat has been ranked in the top most category consecutively for the three years, i.e., 2022, 2023 and 2024.

Under the visionary leadership of Shri Bhupendrabhai Patel, Honourable Chief Minister and Shri Balvantsinh Rajput, Honourable Cabinet Minister of Industries, Civil Aviation, Rural Development, Labour and Employment, the State has achieved this position with pro-active policies and comprehensive infrastructure facilities. The key factors that have

contributed to maintain this high logistics performance are availability and quality of infrastructure, facilitation given by the State Government to the logistics sector and ease of doing business.

Gujarat has always been the focused economy for international trade due to its 1600km long coastline. With 48 non-major ports & Kandla port, Gujarat has been the port-led economy handling 40% of India's port cargo and Gujarat intends to leverage this natural advantage for development of the State's and Country's economy. Also, Gujarat has built a comprehensive logistics infrastructure value chain with a vast network of roads reaching out to remote areas, DMIC, DFC, Expressways, development of ports, rail connectivity projects etc.

The State has always been the policy driven in promoting investments and infrastructure. Gujarat was among the first few states to have sector focused Logistics Policy in 2021, the implementation of this policy initiatives was driven by the Smt. Mamta Verma, Principal Secretary, Department to the Industries and Mines Department. For skill development, there are dedicated colleges and institutes with specifically designed courses for maritime and logistics sector.

Also, the State has taken initiatives in automation and using digital solutions with initiatives such as Port Operations and Financial Management System (POFMS), Vahan 4.0 (providing 20+ faceless services in transport sector), PM Gati Shakti Gujarat, Investor Facilitation Portal etc.

Gujarat's initiatives and leadership in LEADS index will be encouragement and recognition of efforts of the State Government as well as a competitive parameter to attract investment from the industries to Gujarat and to avail advantage of this robust logistics infrastructure.