

## **2. Dedicated Freight Corridor**

**Prelims Syllabus:** Infrastructure - Road, Inland, Railway Aviation, Housing, Rural & Urban

**Mains Syllabus:** GS-III Infrastructure - Energy, Ports, Roads, Airports, Railways etc.

### **Why in News?**

- The World Bank has offered to give financial assistance to the last remaining portion of the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) between Sonnagar (Bihar) and Dankuni (West Bengal),
- India has originally slated to construct this in the private public-private partnership (PPP) mode. As of now, the entire EDFC is being built with loan from World Bank, except for the last portion between Bihar and West Bengal.

### **About Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC):**

- The Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor (EDFC) with a route length of 1856 km runs from Dankuni in West Bengal to Ludhiana (Punjab).
- It covers Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal.
- The railway is one of the multiple freight corridors.

### **Two components from EDFC:**

- First component is to provide additional rail transport capacity, improved service quality and higher freight throughput.
- The second component is institutional development to assist DFCCIL and Ministry of Railways (MOR) to develop their capabilities to best utilize heavy haul freight systems.

### **About Western Dedicated Freight Corridor:**

- The 1,504-km western freight corridor begins at Dadri in Uttar Pradesh and stretches till the country's largest container port — Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust, near Mumbai — passing through Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra.]

### **About Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd. (DFCCIL):**

- DFCCIL under the Ministry of Railways is a special purpose vehicle tasked with planning and completion of 3,306 kms of Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs), consisting of western freight corridor and eastern freight corridor (1,856 kms).
- The construction of DFCs project would enable the decongestion of existing over-saturated paths which, thereby, will effectively improve punctuality of Passenger Trains.