



## Introduction of HSR

### What is the issue?

\n\n

Bullet trains are expected to transform rail travel and boost the economy.

\n\n

### What is the status of HSR in India?

\n\n

\n

- High speed rail or HSR, which basically means trains running on dedicated lines at 250 km/h or highest.

\n

- India's pioneering 500-km 'bullet' train corridor between Mumbai and Ahmedabad.

\n

- It is being executed in collaboration with Gujarat and Maharashtra,

\n

- Japan's offer of the \$12 billion assistance at highly concessional terms is not transferable to other rail projects.

\n

\n\n

### What are the issues with Indian railway system?

\n\n

\n

- The Railways had not segregated its passenger business from freight, for better focus and orientation.

\n

- There is lack of planning on upgrading the resources for 'semi high speed' inter-city trains.

\n

- They also have multiple stops and consume a substantial portion of scarce movement capacity, including on high density routes.  
\n
- The Railways had not restructured its services and tariffs to be able to reposition rail travel in preference to car as well as airlines.  
\n
- Its annual loss currently estimated at Rs.30,000 crore from the passenger business is untenable.  
\n
- Suburban passenger traffic the ordinary second class fare is responsible for losses.  
\n

\n\n

## What are the advantages of HSR?

\n\n

- **Climate Change** - A high-speed electric train emits an eight and a fifth of carbon dioxide as against automobiles and airplanes per passenger km, respectively.  
\n
- **Efficient land usage** - A double-track rail line has more than thrice the passenger carrying capacity of a six-lane highway while requiring less than half the land.  
\n
- **Faster connectivity** - HSR helps bring settlements 500 km apart within two hours of each other.  
\n
- **Affordable** - Designed to be faster than a car, while also cheaper and more convenient than a plane.  
\n
- **Economic growth** - It stimulus for the development of satellite towns, helping alleviate migration to metropolises.  
\n
- **Safety** - HSR's unblemished safety record is an important benefit, ever since its inception in 1964 has maintained a unique record of no fatal accident.  
\n

\n\n

## What are the things to be taken care?

\n\n

\n

- The Railways must ensure the Ahmedabad-Mumbai HSR project is commissioned within stipulated time and cost.

\n

- It needs to keep the other six designated HSR corridors on radar, feasibility studies for which have already been completed.

\n

- The Railways for 350 km/h trains corridors on arterial routes along the golden quadrilateral and its diagonals are also required.

\n

\n\n

\n\n

**Source: Business Line**

\n



**IAS PARLIAMENT**  
*Information is Empowering*  
A Shankar IAS Academy Initiative