



— NLC NEWSLETTER —

DRIVING FORCE

OCTOBER 2023

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Glad to present the third edition of NLC's newsletter **"Driving Force"** sharing update on the organization's unwavering commitment to fostering a conducive ecosystem for businesses. We have been consistent in our pursuit to create an enabling environment for enhancing business activities through provision of seamless logistics services.

The mission of NLC primarily focuses on improving the logistics efficiencies in Pakistan while setting its sights on untapped markets across the region.

For the business entities our message is simple and clear: **"You focus on your business growth, and leave the logistics to us."** To accomplish this ambitious goal, we're harnessing the power of collaboration with business enterprises and the chambers of commerce and industries. In this vein, we're proud to announce our Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with industry giants such as DP World, CEVA Logistics, Globalink, and others. These partnerships are designed to provide our esteemed clients with comprehensive end-to-end logistics solutions. On the regional landscape, we have successfully extended our TIR operations to new destinations like China, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan and Kazakhstan. The TIR operations to other regional countries are also in the offing.

Apart from holding extensive consultations with all stakeholders in Pakistan, NLC also actively participates in national as well as international events hosted by regional countries which provide us with a platform to engage with prominent companies having global footprint. These interactions enable us to share valuable experiences and forge strategic alliances, united by the common objective of stimulating business activities that serves as the cornerstone for economic development and shared prosperity across the entire region.

Beside we will now be entering into yet another phase of transformation aiming at enhancing logistic capacities of the organization. With all these efforts, we're very much sure to exceed the expectations of our valued clients. As we move forward, we invite the business community to join hands with us in shaping a dynamic and prosperous business landscape. Together, we can unlock boundless possibilities and drive growth of our organizations which will have an overall positive impact on the country's economy.

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Maj Gen Farrukh Shahzad Rao
Director General
National Logistics Corporation

REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY

Sino-Pak trade under TIR started

Following successful operationalization of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) for bilateral / transit trade, National Logistics Corporation (NLC) in collaboration with CEVA Logistics, launched first ever transportation operation under the framework of UN - mandated Transport Internationalaux Routiers (TIR).

This pioneering TIR initiative not only promises to further invigorate cross-border trade between China and Pakistan but also establishes an efficient and secure land route to connect with the landlocked Central Asian Republics (CARs) with seaports of Pakistan. By streamlining customs procedures at the borders, TIR offers a faster and more secure mode of transportation, thereby saving time, cost, and enabling the easing of doing business.

An inaugural ceremony to formally launch TIR service was held at the Kashgar Yuanfang International Logistics Port Co. The event was attended by representatives from NLC, officials from Kashgar Customs, the Kashgar Municipal Party Committee, the Kashgar Municipal People's Government and CEVA Logistics.

Representatives of the Kashgar Municipal Party Committee lauded the evolution of CPEC as an exemplary project within the high-quality co-construction framework of the Belt and Road Initiative. Additionally, Zhou Yan of IRU East Asia and South East Asia, and other distinguished guests addressed the gathering. These trucks successfully transported the cargo to Afghanistan via Torkham.



Inaugural ceremony of TIR service at Kashgar

NLC delegation discusses enhanced land route connectivity with Kazakh officials



In an ongoing effort to enhance land route connectivity between Pakistan and the Central Asian Republics (CARs), a high-level delegation of the National Logistics Corporation (NLC) visited Kazakhstan to discuss trade and logistics cooperation.

Led by DG NLC, the delegation held extensive discourse with representatives and senior officials of the Kazakh government. The NLC delegation met Mr. Serik Zhumangarin, the honourable Deputy Prime Minister - Minister of Trade and Integration, and briefed him on the organization's successful logistics operations utilizing various land routes. DG NLC informed that NLC has completed round trips to Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Turkey, Azerbaijan, and China, leveraging the TIR instruments and bilateral transit trade agreements.

This meeting followed the 11th session of the Intergovernmental Commission for Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technical, and Cultural Cooperation held in Pakistan in December 2022. During the session, the Kazakh delegation engaged with representatives from the business communities, officials from Pakistani seaports, and NLC.

Mr. Serik Zhumangarin emphasized the significance of Pakistan as a key trade partner for Kazakhstan in South Asia. He highlighted the substantial potential in supplying 80 processed items to the Pakistani market, valued at 411.9 million US dollars.

The Kazakh Deputy Prime Minister stressed that expanding cooperation in transport and logistics is vital for further enhancing trade relations between the two countries. He expressed Kazakhstan's interest in Pakistani ports at Gwadar and Karachi, as they offer opportunities to promote exports to Pakistan, South Asia, and tap into the region's full potential for transit trade. Additionally, he suggested exploring mutual delivery of goods by land through Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, and Afghanistan, utilizing the seaports of the Middle Corridor via Iran or China, as well as land transport via the Karakoram Highway through Kyrgyzstan, China, and onward to Pakistan.

REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY

Conference on International Road Transport

National Logistics Corporation (NLC) participated in the “International Road Transport: Driving Resilience and Prosperity Conference” organized by Association of International Road Carriers of Uzbekistan (AIRCUIZ) in collaboration with International Road Union (IRU) held at the Uzbekistan capital Tashkent.

On invitation of the organizers, NLC participated in the conference that focused on matters related to regional connectivity, transport and transit along east-west and north-south corridors, shortage of commercial driver, and digitalization of trade and transit. One-on-one meeting was held between DG NLC and Mr. Umberto de Pretto, Secretary-General of IRU. Matters relating to existing and future TIR operations to the regional countries came under discussion.

The conference brought together IRU members, transportation companies, development organizations, and financial institutions to engage in discussions regarding the challenges and emerging opportunities in the field of transportation and transit within the region and beyond.

A special session was dedicated to the 75th anniversary of IRU which was attended by representatives belonging to a wide array of sectors including development, trade, transport and IRU’s “New Industry Shapers” from the region. It may be mentioned here that the New Industry Shapers project includes unique individuals from mobility and logistics operators, associations and suppliers, drivers, researchers and public sector innovators who are leading the road transport sector into the future.

On the sidelines of the conference, Director-General NLC held in-depth discussions with key figures such as Mr. Muminov Abdusamat Abduvaxidovich, Deputy Minister of Uzbekistan for Transport, Mr. Abdul Hashim, Advisor to Minister on Transport and Mr. Yuri Tsvetkov, Deputy Minister of Transport of the Russian Federation. These meetings primarily centered on exploring possibilities for expanding land route connectivity under the TIR system.



Mr. Umberto de Pretto, Secretary-General of IRU

China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS)



DG NLC addressing conference at CIFTIS

agies of TIR. Furthermore, the delegation held productive interactions with leading Chinese logistics organizations to explore the possibilities of mutual collaboration.

CIFTIS witnessed an impressive international turnout, with participation from 75 countries and international organizations, featuring 1,868 exhibiting companies.

The National Logistics Corporation (NLC) participated in the China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) by setting up stall at the Pakistan Pavilion. The mega event was held from 2 – 6 September at the Chinese capital of Beijing. Ambassador of Pakistan to China, Mr. Moin-ul-Haque inaugurated the Pakistan Pavilion.

NLC displayed its multi-faceted services at stall that attracted a large number of delegates and visitors from China and other countries.

On the sidelines of the CIFTIS, the NLC delegation also held meetings with top executives of multinational companies participating in the event and presented seamless logistics solutions that extended to destinations encompassing the Central Asian Republics, Azerbaijan, Turkey, Afghanistan, and beyond. These operations are being executed under the

COLLABORATION

NLC and CEVA Logistics ink MoU

In a bid to enhance efficiency of cross-border cargo shipment, the National Logistics Corporation (NLC) and CEVA Logistics signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

The signing ceremony took place at Headquarters NLC was attended by DG NLC, senior officials from NLC and CEVA Logistics. Brigadier Nasir Zia, Chief Operating Officer of NLC, and Mr. Kelvin Tang, Ground & Rail Voice President Greater China, Japan & Korea; Global Cross Border & Multimodal Leader from CEVA Logistics signed MoU on behalf of their respective organizations.



MoU signing Ceremony at HQ NLC - Photo: NLC Archives

NLC and Globalink Logistics forge strategic partnership



MoU signing Ceremony at Dubai- Photo: NLC Archives

The National Logistics Corporation (NLC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Globalink Logistics, solidifying their commitment to enhance global logistics operations.

Signing ceremony of the MoU was held at Dubai. DG NLC and Mr. Siddique Khan, Chief Executive Officer of Globalink Logistics, signed the MoU.

The MoU is collaborative effort between NLC and Globalink Logistics aimed at offering comprehensive logistics solutions to the business community for seamless movement of cargo worldwide. This partnership will encompass various modes of transportation, including road, air, and sea routes in addition to allied services, catering to the diverse needs of businesses across the globe.

Uzbek Ambassador Visits HQ NLC

The Ambassador of the Republic of Uzbekistan, H.E. Oybek Arif Usmanov visited Headquarters NLC. Upon arrival, the visiting dignitary was warmly received by DG NLC.

The Uzbek Ambassador was given an in-depth briefing about the pivotal role being played by the NLC in the national development, with a special emphasis on the organization's proactive role in establishment of regional connectivity under the ambit of Transport Internationaux Routiers (TIR).

H.E. Oybek Arif Usmanov assured wholehearted support on behalf of Uzbekistan in facilitating land-based transportation between the two nations.



Group Photo of NLC officers with Uzbek Ambassador at HQ NLC

COLLABORATION

Reception for Delegates

NLC hosted a reception in honour of delegates from CIS countries. HE Yerzhan Kistafin, the Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan was the guest of honour. The event was also attended by representatives from the FPCCI and foreign missions of other Central Asian countries. Ambassador Kistafin expressed his gratitude to NLC for establishing land-based trade routes with Kazakhstan. While addressing the gathering, the honourable ambassador conveyed his government's commitment to fostering sustainable trade relationship between the two countries, with TIR playing a pivotal role. The Ambassador highlighted Kazakhstan's keen interest in utilizing Pakistani ports for exports and imports to other regions around the world.



HE Yerzhan Kistafin, the Ambassador of Kazakhstan to Pakistan

Engagement with TDAP

As part of ongoing consultations process with all stakeholders on regional connectivity, DG NLC held meeting with Mr. Muhammad Zubair Motiwala, Chief Executive Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) at Karachi.

DG NLC apprised Chief Executive TDAP about the successful delivery of commercial consignments to Turkiye, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and other countries in the region under TIR Conventions. He emphasized that being the leading multimodal logistics corporation, NLC acts as a bridge between the public and private sectors, contributing to the sustainable development of the logistics industry in Pakistan. Mr. Motiwala commended the NLC's regional connectivity efforts and assured all out assistance on behalf of business community of Pakistan.



Mr. Muhammad Zubair Motiwala, Chairman TDAP

Meeting with DG Transit Trade and Chairman PNC-ICC

DG NLC held meetings with Mr. Wajid Ali, Director General Transit Trade and Mr. Tariq Rangoonwala, Chairman Pakistan National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce (PNC-ICC). Matters related to impediments in expansion of TIR operations especially issuance of E & I Form by local banks and smooth clearance of consignments at border crossing points were discussed during these meetings. Both of the officers assured DG NLC that all outstanding issues with regard to TIR will be taken up on priority basis.



Mr. Wajid Ali, Director General Transit Trade



Mr. Tariq Rangoonwala, Chairman PNC-ICC

COLLABORATION

Meeting with FPCCI

DG NLC visited the Federation House at Karachi and held detailed meeting with representatives of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industries (FPCCI). The discussions focused on strategies to boost Pakistan's exports to the Central Asian Republics (CARs) as well as to Turkey, Azerbaijan, and China using the instrument of TIR.

The FPCCI commended NLC's proactive efforts in establishing crucial land-based trade routes to regional nations, terming it a landmark initiative that will greatly enhance economic activities within the region.



Meeting with Members of FPCCI at Federation House, Karachi

However, the FPCCI raised concerns regarding certain obstacles faced when engaging with the CARs, particularly the reluctance of commercial banks to issue I & E (Import & Export) forms for cargo transiting through country under sanctions. They expressed disappointment over the fact that Pakistani commercial banks are not capitalizing on the opportunities presented by the TIR (Transports Internationaux Routiers) convention, unlike their counterparts in other nations. This reluctance by Pakistani banks to issue I & E forms, despite no legal prohibitions, has proven to be detrimental to the expansion of Pakistan's export base. To address this issue, the FPCCI proposed the formation of a task force to push for policy-intervention at the government level.



Group photo with FPCCI members

Meetings with Federal Ministers

DG NLC held separate meetings with Federal Minister for Finance, Mr. Ishaq Dar and Mr. Khwaja Saad Rafique, Federal Minister for Civil Aviation & Railways.

DG NLC briefed the Federal Minister for Finance on role and performance of NLC with special reference to the logistics services and ongoing land route transportation to the Central Asian Republics (CARs) and China. Talking on the occasion, Mr. Ishaq Dar termed the TIR services of NLC as pathbreaking development which will help a great deal in diversification of Pakistan's exports particularly to the untapped markets of CARs.

The Federal Minister for railways also applauded the regional connectivity initiatives of NLC under UN mandated TIR convention. He said that being government entities, both Railways and NLC must complement rail and road modes in order to provide cost effective solutions to the business community.

Minister of Railways also assured DG NLC of full support from the management of railway ministry for cooperation and speedy response on pending issues. Meeting ended on a good note of enhancing cooperation between NLC & Railways.



Meeting with Minister for Finance

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS AT NLC

67th Meeting of National Logistics Board

The 67th meeting of the National Logistics Board (NLB) was held at Pak Secretariat Islamabad. Chaired by Chairman NLB, the honourable Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Special Initiatives (PDSI), Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, the meeting was attended by other members of the apex logistics body.

Lieutenant General Muhammad Ali, Quartermaster General Pakistan Army / Officer In-Charge (OIC) NLC, and Major General Farrukh Shahzad Rao, Director General NLC, briefed the participants on the operational, administrative and financial matters of the organization.

The Board was apprised of NLC's regional connectivity initiatives under Transport Internationaux Routiers (TIR), and the bilateral transit trade agreements with China, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Turkey.

Prof. Ahsan Iqbal lauded the performance of NLC and praised the organisation's contributions towards nation-building activities. He assured that PD&SI will play its role in resolving matters pertaining to issuance of I & E forms by commercial banks to exporters and importers for shipment through Iran.

The minister directed NLC management to explore ways and means for all whether operationalization of Khunjerab pass for trade with China. The minister emphasised that regional connectivity is key to making Pakistan a hub of transit trade. He instructed NLC to undertake more cargo operations to other Central Asian states via land route.

The honourable minister said that his ministry would help expedite the approval process of PC-1 for the border terminals at Ghulam Khan, Kharlachi, Angoor Adda, Gabd and Taftan.

He expressed the hope that NLC would continue to make significant contributions in bolstering the country's economic activities. NLB also approved the budget estimates presented by NLC management for financial year 2023/24.



67th Meeting of National Logistics Board

State-of-the-art Freight Terminal at Karachi inaugurated

The National Logistics Corporation (NLC) has constructed a state-of-the-art Freight Terminal at Landhi, Karachi. Lt. Gen. Muhammad Ali, Quartermaster General of the Pakistan Army and Officer in Charge of NLC inaugurated the terminal.

This facility will serve as the nerve center for road freight operations and boasts an impressive array of facilities, including contemporary Fleet Management Control Room (FMCR), fully equipped base workshop, petrol station, service station, calibration plant, asphalt-paved parking areas, and a robust firefighting system. Furthermore, the terminal has harnessed sustainable energy through a 400 KVA solar system, aligning with modern environmental standards.

One noteworthy feature of this project is its unwavering commitment to Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) standards. The terminal has been meticulously designed to ensure full compliance with these regulations. Moreover, in a gesture towards environmental conservation, over 1000 trees have been planted in the vicinity of the terminal, contributing to a greener and more sustainable future.



NLC Freight Terminal Landhi, Karachi

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS AT NLC

Engagements in China

During its visit to China, the NLC delegation held a series of comprehensive meetings with the leadership of prominent logistics companies and representatives from the corporate sector in Beijing. These engagements included discussions with key entities such as Shandong Lingong Construction Machinery Co, Ltd, NUTECH, Pingumafang Logistics, SINOTRUK, as well as high-level meetings with the Vice President of the E-Commerce Association, the CEO of Prestige, and the Vice Secretary General of the Commission of CNFIA (China Fisheries).

Besides regional connectivity initiative of NLC, potential collaborations and procurement opportunities with regards to vehicles and machinery were discussed during the meetings.



NLC Delegation during visit to Pingumafang Log Base

NLC gets overwhelming response at Food & Agricultural Exhibition

The stall set up by National Logistics Corporation (NLC) in the first ever edition of International Food & Agriculture Exhibition (FoodAg-2023), organized by the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) received overwhelming response from local and international exhibitors and delegates. Themed "Growing a Sustainable Future," the exhibition brought together 250 exhibitors from approximately 55 nations, creating a global platform for firms related to food and agricultural sectors.

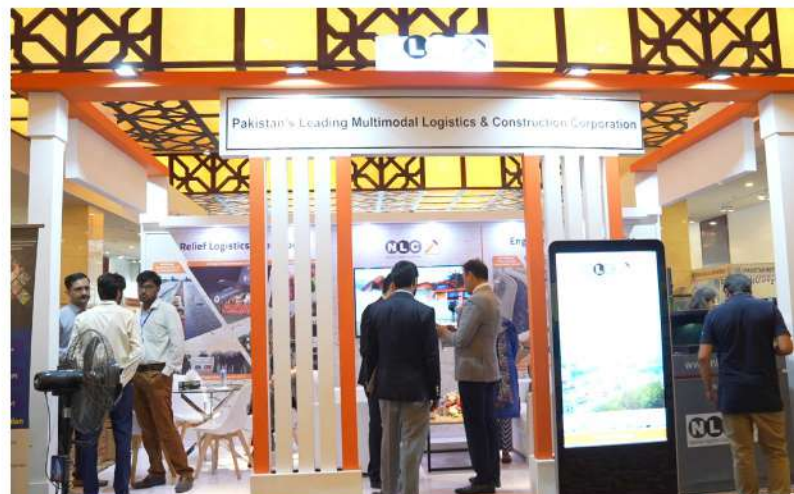
NLC was the exclusive logistics entity that participated with a dedicated stall, showcasing its comprehensive multimodal logistics solutions to a diverse audience, including delegates, local and international visitors. Alongside the event, NLC's management held meetings with representatives from national and multinational enterprises, fostering connections on the event's sidelines.



NLC highlights its crisis management role

NLC has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to serve the nation in natural calamities and commodities crises since its inception in 1978. To highlight these efforts, NLC established a stall at the Pakistan Expo on Disaster Risk Reduction – 2023 organized by the National Disaster Management Authority at the Pak-China Friendship Centre in Islamabad.

NLC showcased the organization's valuable contributions in rescue, relief, and rehabilitation operations during natural disasters, food, and fuel crises. NLC's representatives engaged visitors articulating the importance of logistics supply in earthquakes, droughts, floods, and cyclones. As one of the most important responders during crises, NLC mobilizes its construction machinery for clearance of road infrastructure and removal of debris. This proactive action paves the way for aid agencies and volunteers to access the distressed communities promptly.



DEVELOPING PAKISTAN

Inauguration of Bhara Kahu Bypass Project

Bhara Kahu, a rapidly expanding town on the outskirts of Islamabad, had been plagued by a major bottleneck that hindered the movement of both locals and tourists alike. The narrowness of the road, combined with numerous encroachments, resulted in frequent traffic jams, causing commuters to endure snail pace movement on a daily basis. Recognizing the urgent need for a solution, the local community had consistently voiced their demands to the government, urging the construction of a bypass to facilitate smooth travel to popular destinations such as Murree, Galyat, and beyond. In response to these pleas, the Government of Pakistan approved the construction of the Bhara Kahu Bypass, aiming to alleviate the hardships faced by commuters. The project was awarded to NLC Engineers on 11 October 2022.

The Bypass commences at Malpur, Islamabad, and extends all the way to Satra Meel on Murree Road. This mega project encompasses the construction of 5.2 kilometers of roads, 2 bridges, 4 underpasses, 1 interchange and 7 culverts, among other essential infrastructure.

NLC Engineers successfully completed this impressive project within a short span of only 10 months. Recognizing its utmost importance and prioritizing it accordingly, NLC Engineers worked round-the-clock, ensuring highest standards of work. Honourable Prime Minister of Pakistan Muhammad Shahbaz Sharif inaugurated the project. He lauded the efforts of NLC in timely completion of the project.



Inauguration of Bhara Kahu Bypass - Photo: NLC Archives



 **5.2** kilometers

 **1** Interchange

 **2** Bridges

 **4** Underpasses

DEVELOPING PAKISTAN

Completed Projects

As one of the leading construction organizations, NLC Engineers is at the forefront of Pakistan's infrastructure development. NLC's commitment to the nation is exemplified through the successful execution of numerous large-scale projects across the country. Upholding the tradition of delivering iconic projects, NLC Engineers has achieved significant milestones by completing seven projects in last quarter.

These include the expansion of Karnal Sher Khan Shaheed Road in Rawalpindi, the restoration of Orangi Nullah in Karachi, the construction of the Bharakahu Bypass in Islamabad, the development of a road along Seam Nullah at Allama Iqbal Industrial City Pkg 4, the redesigning and enhancement of the Kalma Chowk Underpass in Lahore, the construction of an Auditorium, Innovation Center, and Jamia Masjid at UET Lahore's Narowal Campus (Phase II), and significant progress on the Storm Water Drain project in Karachi.



Innovation Center UET Narowal



Restoration of Orangi Nullah, Karachi



Auditorium UET Narowal

Projects Acquired

Project Directories	Projects
North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of Additional Lane for N-5 Connecting Lai Underpass, Rawalpindi Repair of Road from Katchery Chowk to Askari XIV via Khawaja Corporation Adyala Road Length 6.31 Km
Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-Modeling and Upgradation of ADA Nullah and Walton Road (Pkg-I) Re-Modelling and Upgradation of ADA Nullah and Walton Road (Pkg II) (Construction of Flyover at Ghora Chowk) Development of Internal Infrastructure of CBD Walton (Ph-2&3) and Flyover Connecting Bab-e-Pakistan to Walton

Building Capacity and Enhancing HSE Culture

NLC Engineers, an ISO 45001 certified entity, is committed to develop a secure work environment that not only prioritizes safety but also nurtures personal and professional growth of its employees. A vibrant mechanism has been established to consistently monitor and review the progress in HSE through dedicated resource allocation and ensuring its successful implementation.

The primary focus of these initiative revolves around prevention of personal injuries, work-related illnesses, and major accidents. The goal of achieving zero injuries is ingrained in the organizational culture, with an unwavering dedication to continuous improvement. HSE activities are integrated into the daily operations and are embedded at all levels across the organization.



Onsite HSE Training

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS AT NLC

Wheat Transportation

NLC provides transportation services for both federal and provincial governments to ensure a consistent supply of essential food staples. Presently, NLC is actively engaged in the transportation of wheat for the Sindh Food Department, with a commitment to transport a total of 435,000 tons of wheat within the current fiscal year. As of now, NLC has successfully transported 160,000 tons of wheat. Furthermore, NLC is also executing wheat transportation operations to remote regions within Gilgit-Baltistan. In the ongoing financial year, a substantial portion of this task has been accomplished, with approximately 10,000 tons out of a total of 68,256 tons of wheat already delivered to these far-flung areas.



Wheat Transportation to Gilgit-Baltistan

In Brief

- Transported 62.414 million liters of white oil
- Lifted 13,14,514 bbl crude oil
- Transported 41,322 tons edible oil
- 144 vehicles registered for TIR
- Transported 20 Survey Rigs of Reko Diq project
- Handled 8000 containers at Lahore, Quetta, Hyderabad & Sost Dry Ports
- Training on e-procurement for NLC employees



Border Terminals

The Border Terminals established at Torkham, Ghulam Khan, Kharlachi, Taftan and Wahga are serving as facilitation centers for the cross-border trade. As Border Terminal Operator, NLC is providing all requisite facilities to the government agencies including Customs, FIA, NADRA etc. Through its efficient service delivery, these terminals play pivotal role in promoting cross-border trade. Around 150, 000 import and export containers / vehicles were handled at these border terminals during the last quarter.

Logistics Parks at Karachi & Lahore

Logistics Park serves as hub for seamless flow of cargo and facilitate trade and commerce. In view of its significance, NLC is constructing modern logistics parks at Karachi Northern Bypass and Nathay Khalsa in Lahore. These strategically located parks will provide state-of-the-art amenities, including advanced warehousing, comprehensive transportation infrastructure, and cutting-edge technological solutions, aimed at optimizing the entire supply chain process. Construction work for utilities and road infrastructure at the Karachi Northern Bypass Logistics Park is already underway, while the development of the Nathay Khalsa Logistics Park is scheduled to commence in November 2023, following the finalization of its design.



Work in progress on logistic Park at Karachi Northern Bypass

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS AT NLC

Applied Technologies Institutes of NLC (ATINs)

The Applied Technologies Institutes of NLC (ATINs) have been at the forefront of providing exceptional training and skill development services to both national and international organizations. In the past quarter, these institutes have achieved significant milestones, collaborating with renowned entities to enhance the skill sets of the youth.

Sponsored Training Programs

During the last quarter, ATINs conducted several training programmes sponsored by national and international organizations. Notably, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) sponsored training for 36 students through the National Vocational & Technical Training Commission (NAVTTTC) at ATIN Amangarh.

Furthermore, the Oil and Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL) and the Punjab Skills Development Fund (PSDF) sponsored training for 50 and 237 students, respectively, at ATIN Dina and Mandra. As part of commitment to excellence, refresher cadre for 122 tradesmen from Pakistan Rangers Sindh was organized at ATIN Dina.

In another significant collaboration, Secure International France (SIF), an international NGO, sponsored training for 18 students at ATIN Amangarh. In total, 1,840 students were enrolled across all ATINs, with 772 of them participating on a self-finance basis.



New Programmes Launched

The Vision Group, an overseas employment promoter organization, conducted a refresher cadre for 40 drivers at ATIN Dina, with the goal of preparing them for induction into DP World. Moreover, ATINs have successfully completed the enrollment process for Dual Diploma Split Education Programme. Under this programme, students will study for two years at ATIN Mandra and one year at a Chinese counterpart institute. Classes have been started on October 9, 2023. Students will pursue Diplomas of Associate Engineering (DAE) in two specialized programmes: Internet of Things Applied Technology (IoTAT) in collaboration with Jiujiang Vocational & Technical College (JVTC), China, and Mechanical Manufacturing and Automation Technology (MMAT) in partnership with Jilin Vocational College of Industry and Technology, China.

Balancing Career & Parenthood - Day Care facility at NLC

NLC has introduced a Day Care facility with the primary objective of providing attentive supervision and care to infants and young children during office hours. This service is available to both male and female employees, designed to support them in their official duties without any distractions, as trained facilitators ensure the well-being of their children.

The Day Care facility at NLC is provided free of charge to employees and is thoughtfully furnished to meet the safety and comfort requirements of children. This service is available for children up to the age of four years. To ensure the highest standards of care, NLC has employed two dedicated attendants to manage the Day Care facility.



Logistics Sector of Pakistan - An Overview



There is no denying the fact that transport and logistics forms the backbone of economies world over. According to Pakistan Export Strategy Logistics – 2023-2027, the logistics sector alone contributes 15.6 % to the GDP and 5.4% to the job market of Pakistan. Its paramount significance can be gauged from the studies which suggest that for every day that freight spends less in a supply chain, trade can witness a remarkable 4.5 percent increase. Therefore, an efficient and reliable logistics network, consistent government policies and smooth cross-border trade facilitation processes serve as driving force behind the export competitiveness of any nation. The performance of freight logistics industry has more profound impact in terms of integration of local economy with regional and global economies. Such scenario results in more positive outcomes in terms of enhanced exports, jobs creation and higher GDP growth.

Unfortunately, the logistics sector of Pakistan does not present a very promising picture. On top of the issues marring the sector is extreme fragmentation, where the top road freight carriers have a very small share as compared to the owner-operated trucks. These owner-operators, regrettably, lack the necessary training and insurance coverage for both their drivers and cargo. Equally concerning is their reliance on outdated technology, rendering them non-compliant with international vehicle certification standards. This state of affairs also makes them incapable of meeting the evolving demands of modern supply chain system. Adding to this conundrum is the financial incapacity of the owner-operated companies to modernize the fleets. The consequences of this predicament manifest

Logistics Sector of Pakistan - An Overview

in the persistent overloading of trucks, which not only damage the national road assets but also incur additional expenses on its maintenance. All government efforts to enforce axle load regulations has met with stiff resistance from transport operators. The modal transportation distribution is heavily tilted in favour of road with a whopping share of 94% of freight relying on trucking. This practice is putting heavy financial burden on the entire supply chain as road is undoubtedly the costliest of all modes of transportation. Of the road network, N-5 highway bears most of burden of freight and passenger traffic. The overwhelming reliance on road is due to the fact that Pakistan Railways has lost its competitive edge to vehicular transport primarily because of outdated rail infrastructure, inadequate logistical orientation, administrative and financial inefficiencies. Efforts to regain foothold in freight transport have been hampered by mix of these myriad issues.

Key Facts of Transport & Logistics Sector

Contribution to GDP	15.6%
Contribution to Job Market	5.4%
Registered Cargo Vehicles	500,000 Aprox
Annual Cargo Movement through Road	206 bn tons km
Road Freight Share	94%
Rail Freight Share	2%
Commercial Sea Ports	3
Airfields	139
Airports	32

***Source: Pakistan Export Strategy Logistics – 2023-2027**

Similarly, there has been no serious plans to use the inland waterways of the country. Notwithstanding a few pilot barge and boat operations at some places in Indus River, the inland waterways of the country remain largely untapped. Additionally, air freight in Pakistan is severely constrained, with domestic airlines prioritizing passenger services over cargo. The absence of a well-established multimodal transport infrastructure exacerbates the overreliance on road transport, perpetuating issues such as congestion, pollution, and road damage. These factors collectively contribute to the elevated cost of transportation in Pakistan.

The policy framework governing the logistics has perhaps the most profound impact on the growth of freight and logistics. The various segments within the freight transport and logistics value chain are currently under the management of multiple ministries, government agencies, and organizations, including the Ministry of Communications, Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Ministry of Railways, Aviation Division, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Planning, Development and Special Initiatives, Federal Board of Revenue (FBR), and Provincial Governments. The lack of a dedicated ministry to lead and provide a comprehensive oversight to logistics development represents a substantial barrier.

Above issues concerning the current state of affairs have been identified in multiple studies including the National Freight and Logistics Policy. The most important thing is to chart a clear roadmap for creating an ecosystem for sustainable development of the logistics industry.



The most important among the steps to be taken on the basis of priorities is imperative to modernize the legal and regulatory framework, ensuring the protection and harmonization of interests among diverse stakeholders. The restructuring of regulatory policies and safeguarding stakeholders' concerns must align with global standards, industry norms, and international conventions to meet the expectations of trading partners. Given the potential to expand overland trade with Pakistan's neighbors and within regions like the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC), and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), Pakistan must modernize its legislation and fortify enforcement mechanisms.

Logistics Sector of Pakistan - An Overview

Regional trade demands goods transport and associated supply chains at competitive prices and adequate service levels in terms of quality and reliability. The elevated pricing and substandard service stem, in part, from erratic policies, regulatory shortcomings, and institutional weaknesses, necessitating operators and service providers to navigate through multiple entities and administrative procedures. Although certain components of the transportation network, such as world-class motorways and container ports, operate at acceptable service levels, there is a need for an overall enhancement of transport and logistics services.

An integrated system-level approach is essential, signifying a shift from a static, supply-oriented provision of trucking and warehousing services to a dynamic, demand-driven delivery of freight and logistics services for both domestic and cross-border goods movements.

If we speak of the global standards, leading nations have mastered the art of logistics efficiency by adopting a holistic approach. In this integrated logistics approach, the government assumes a pivotal role in coordinating and overseeing the entire logistics value chain. In some countries, a Special Committee, chaired by the Prime Minister, closely monitors the progress of the National Integrated Logistics Action Plan. Pakistan has the potential to harmonize and optimize the various components of its logistics value chain to ensure seamless, multi-modal growth in the efficient freight transport and logistics sector.

Transport sector consumes a substantial 35 percent of total energy in Pakistan. It is estimated that transport costs constitute nearly 25 percent of total product expenses. Barring the exception of National Logistics Corporation (NLC) with modern fleet of trucks, the outdated trucking mix have negative fallouts not only in terms of high fuel consumption, escalated logistics costs but carbon footprints touching dangerous levels. Conversely, modern trucks are more fuel efficient but lower the greenhouse gas emission and reduces the cost of transportation. This, in turn, translates to lower prices for food and other manufactured goods.

Accelerated transport speeds, gives the businesses access to new international and domestic markets. Furthermore, the reduction in truck overloading minimizes road damage and network maintenance costs.

An estimated 33 percent of current agricultural output is lost due to the absence of a cold chain and a reliable perishable supply chain. A robust cold supply chain lowers the wastage of perishable goods during transportation.

Improved road safety, achieved by reducing reliance on the road through the adoption of alternative modes such as railways and inland waterways.

Private sector investment is the cornerstone of a thriving logistics industry. To catalyze this, governments should create an enabling environment for modernizing logistics infrastructure. This entails developing the necessary physical infrastructure, reducing bureaucratic barriers, and offering incentives to attract private investment. By providing a platform for modernization, the private sector can invest in and upgrade their logistics operations, driving economic growth.

Core Logistics Components

1	Customer service
2	Transportation
3	Freight forwarding services
4	Inventory management
5	Information flow and order processing
6	Warehousing
7	Cross-docking and intermodal exchanges
8	Materials handling
9	Protective packaging: value-added services
10	Support services such as certification



Regional trade is a linchpin of economic prosperity. Strengthening transit trade with neighboring and regional countries is pivotal to facilitating international trade. Simplifying customs procedures, reducing trade barriers, and streamlining cross-border transactions are essential steps in achieving seamless trade flows. TIR convention guarantees all these provisions. This not only boosts the economy but also enhances bilateral relations with regional nations due to interdependencies.

Enhancing multimodal linkages involves integrating various transportation modes such as roads, railways, ports, and airways and create a seamless and efficient network. This optimization reduces transportation costs, transit times, and

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environmental impacts, promoting economic sustainability. Rail transportation stands out as one of the most efficient ways to transport goods over long distances. Encouraging freight by railways increases the capacity of the railway sector, decongests roads, and reduces carbon emissions. Governments should invest in modernizing railway infrastructure and creating favorable policies to incentivize rail freight.

Pakistan is by and large an agrarian economy. For transportation of agricultural products to cities, well-maintained roads and transportation systems are of paramount importance for farm to market connectivity. It will potentially drive economic growth in both urban and rural areas.



In the age of digital transformation, e-logistics are on the rise. Governments should promote and facilitate e-logistics to tap into the emerging market of small customer goods, both domestically and internationally. E-logistics streamline supply chains, enhance visibility, and cater to the growing demand for online shopping and global trade.

Modern logistics heavily rely on state-of-the-art technologies. Adopting Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) empowers the usage of cutting-edge technologies such as GPS, sensors, and data analytics to optimize traffic management, reduce congestion, enhance safety, and lower emissions.

To harness the full potential of modern logistics, investing in training and capacity building is essential. Skilled labour is the backbone of a well-functioning logistics sector. Promoting industry-specific training and skill development programmes ensures a capable workforce that can adapt to the evolving demands of the industry.

The transformation of logistics infrastructure is a multifaceted journey that requires a strategic approach. By realigning institutions, fostering private sector investment, strengthening trade ties, enhancing multimodal linkages, promoting rail freight, upgrading trucking fleets, improving connectivity, embracing e-logistics, adopting modern technologies, and investing in workforce capacity, Pakistan can position itself for sustained economic growth, global competitiveness, and environmental sustainability. These strategies are not just a blueprint; they are a roadmap to a prosperous future.

The National Logistics and Freight Policy stands as a comprehensive document, meticulously pinpointing the shortcomings within the logistics sector while proposing a series of measures aimed at enhancing various modes of transportation, including road, rail, sea, inland waterways, as well as rural and urban transport. It also addresses governance structures, transit trade facilitation, and capacity building.

This document goes beyond mere identification; it strategically assigns responsibilities to pertinent stakeholders, complete with key performance indicators and a well-defined timeline. The effective implementation of these recommendations promises to usher in a revolutionary transformation within the logistics sector. Consequently, it is poised to significantly elevate the sector's standing of Pakistan on the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index.



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