



Ministry of Communications

Department of Posts to deliver essential items through National Road Transport Network with 22 routes of over 500km

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Due to the prevailing situation arising out of lock-down due to COVID-19, the supply chain management of essential items in the country got disrupted as the passenger airlines, railways and state roadways stopped plying. Union Minister for Communications, Electronics & Information Technology and Law and Justice, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad while addressing the senior officers of the Department of Posts, encouraged the department to think out of the box in the crisis period. As a result of this encouragement, the idea of starting a road network with the existing fleet of departmental vehicles, primarily used for intra-city delivery, was conceived and a National Road Transport Network was designed with 22 long routes of over 500 km interspersed with 34 interstate/intra-state schedules touching over 75 cities across the country. This initiative will now ensure that there is a movement of essential items within the country as Department of Posts will be able to deliver parcels carrying essential items anywhere in the country.

The Department of Posts has already taken a number of initiatives to ensure supplies of essential items including medicines, Covid-19 testing kits, masks, sanitizers, PPEs and medical equipments including ventilators and defibrillators to all corners of the country. The Department has also been delivering cash at doorsteps specially of old, divyangjan, pensioners through Adhar enabled payment system. This National Road Transport Network is yet another initiative of the Department to reach out to people across the country.

RJ/NG

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