As per the Economic Survey 2017-18, in the last five years the logistics sector has grown at a CAGR of 7.8% and is worth about $160 billion.

The government has initiated several enablers for growth in the logistics space. The biggest being the grant of infrastructure status to the logistics sector.

Implementation of the good and services tax (GST) regime is another game changer for the industry. While in the short run, compliance costs may be high, efficiency improvements are bound to generate gains in the long run.

GST has triggered consolidation in the warehousing domain and greater demand for third party logistics; value added services and development of multi-modal logistics parks.

Increased investor interest is being witnessed across the sector, especially in the warehousing space. The segment has seen a surge in the private equity activity over the years with the participation from a wide range of foreign investors.

Industry's take on the impact of GST has been fairly mixed. While initial implementation hiccups have dented growth, the overall expected impact will be positive.

Rising consumer demand, boom in e-commerce, and boost in manufacturing will provide growth opportunities in the domestic logistics sector.

The government has highlighted priority areas for the sector and formulated plans to develop a detailed Integrated Logistics Action Plan for the country.

Mandates like Make in India will continue to push the creation of a robust logistics framework in the country. Besides, big-ticket programmes such as Bharatmala Pariyojana, Sagar Mala project and UDAN scheme will provide a boost to the logistics system.

The dedicated freight corridors (DFCs) and DMIC are being touted as the biggest drivers of change in the Indian logistics sector.

Meanwhile, the government is working on creating an integrated logistics division within the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to bring down the total cost of movement of shipments.
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