

Private sector may get limited access to Gati Shakti portal

DPIIT prepares draft framework for data sharing

SHREYA NANDI

New Delhi, 2 May

With an eye on national security and data privacy, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has finalised a draft framework for sharing the Gati Shakti national master plan data with the private sector.

The framework will entail details of the extent of “viewing rights”, as well as access rights to social and economic infrastructure-related data with a private entity.

Currently, only state and central government ministries and departments can access the portal for detailed planning and implementation of infrastructure connectivity projects in a time-bound manner.

“While we want to share the data with the private sector, we need to be cautious regarding the extent of data that will be shared. The wealth of data in the national master plan should not be misused. A draft framework has already been developed,” a senior government



► **Gati Shakti master plan was launched in Oct 2021** for planning multimodal infra connectivity to economic nodes

► **It is a GIS-enabled platform that has integrated data layers** of roads, railway, ports, inland waterways, telecom lines, etc

► **Can help private players in execution of infra projects**, depending on the extent to which data is shared with them

official said. The framework will be rolled out after getting comments and views from relevant ministries.

Turn to Page 6 ►

Gati Shakti...

As of now, more than 1,450 layers of information have been uploaded on the national masterplan, including information related to railway and port connectivity, gas pipelines, optic fibre across the country, land records, which may include personal data, as well. Of this, 585 data layers have been uploaded by 36 central ministries and departments and 872 have been uploaded by states and Union Territories.

“Apart from national security concerns, the government will also have to take care of privacy concerns since a data set may pertain to an individual, as well,” said the official cited above.

The idea behind giving access to the national masterplan data to private players is to help them in the execution of infrastructure projects. However, preparing protocols for private users' access shall be crucial, considering security concerns. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has also been consulted in connection with the draft framework.