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1 IN CIRCULATION & READERSHIP

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WHAT IS STOPPING AFS POLICY FROM TAKING OFF IN INDIA

INDUSTRY GEARS UP FOR VACCINE STORAGE & DISTRIBUTION



SETTING FOOT IN 2021

An edge in airfreight operations

Offering a 360-degree service competency to its clients, Gati is leveraging Allcargo's logistics capabilities and infrastructure including NVOCC, CFSs, warehousing, project logistics and contract logistics. **Bala Aghoramurthy**, Deputy Managing Director, Gati-KWE (an Allcargo Company) talks about Gati's express distribution, its airfreight operations & cold chain solutions.



Kalpana Lohumi

Bala Aghoramurthy
Deputy Managing Director, Gati-KWE
(an Allcargo Company)

What gives Gati Express Distribution an edge?

With unparalleled reach to over 99 per cent of the districts in India, Gati Express Distribution has extensive operation bandwidth with over 600 offices and over 5,000 trucks and rail services. Customers can transport their cargo anywhere across the country, with the company's express distribution network which covers over 19,800 pin codes and 735 districts. The unparalleled express distribution wherewithal of Gati has further been strengthened by Allcargo Logistics' diverse logistics operations include which NVOCC, Container

Freight Stations, warehousing, project logistics and contract logistics. Both can now leverage each other's strength to offer clients a top-notch end-to-end logistics solution. Gati's excellence first and last-mile logistics and Allcargo's proven expertise in diverse logistics verticals will build a comprehensive framework for the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine for the successful implementation of Universal Immunization Program (UIP) of the Central government.

What makes Gati a pioneer in door-to-door express logistics?

Since its inception in 1989, Gati has been able to maintain a leadership position in door-to-door express logistics, as it operates with an assetlight model. As a part of the model, the company functions with a distributed network of trucking companies, providing vehicles as needed. Gati leverages a hub-and-spoke model with the highest standards of safety and compliance. It has enhanced a tracking system with a state-of-theart ERP and tracking system.

How diverse is Gati's service offering?

Gati offers an extensive range of business services which include surface and air express distribution, supply chain solutions, e-commerce and e-fulfillment, inventory supply chain management and cold chain solutions. Moreover, Gati has rolled out a range of exclusive special services such as Art Express, Student Express, Bike Express, etc. to fulfill the needs of various customer segments. Moreover, thanks to the strategic alliance with Allcargo Logistics, Gati is well-positioned to offer customised solutions to other logistics needs like CFS-ICD, NVOCC, contract logistics, etc.

What gives Gati Air the edge in the airfreight operations segment?

Companies opt for airfreight to ensure safe, swift and timely deliveries at the right price of the cargo. For more than two decades, we have been consistently delivering on all those parameters, add to that our unmatched network across the country. Therefore,

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Gati Air has emerged as the most viable and dependable air freight service provider during the pandemic situation. We have a robust presence through Gati Air Transit Centres or Air Operating Centres at 35 airports across India, thus covering all the commercial airports in the country. We also offer direct delivery service to all metro locations within 50 km range.

What are the strategic advantages Gati Air is leveraging?

As an Allcargo group company, we are now positioned as an end-to-end logistics solution provider, providing customer one-window-experience. Our connectivity is now spread across 160 countries across the world. Our services have now become even more integrated with NVOCC container freight stations,

warehousing solutions, logistics parks and project logistics.

Gati is now globally connected and can leverage Allcargo's digital platform ECU360, offering online shipment booking facilities based on the endto-end quotes. ECU360 is the most sought-after online destination for global trade, as it offers door-to-door guotes of more than 55 countries with pick-up and delivery options. Apart from offering comprehensive cargo visibility to the customers throughout the cargo shipping cycle, it leverages a multimodal operational mechanism to facilitate the transportation of shipments across diverse operational touch points.

What is the size of India's logistics and cold chain market?

The size of India's cold chain market

was pegged at around ₹1,121 billion in 2018. It is expected to grow at a CAGR of 14.8 per cent over 2019-2024 and reach an estimated ₹2,618 billion by 2024.

With a target set for mid-2021, how is Gati gearing up for them?

Being one of the largest logistics companies in India, we would like to continue with our mission to offer comprehensive and differentiated solutions to our customers.

We are also leveraging our global and pan India reach thanks to strategic collaboration with Allcargo to offer our customers end-to-end visibility. Going forward, we continue to further enhance our service delivery by adopting digital technologies and techenabled solutions. 🔑

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Indian trucking sector suffers losses

ccording to WheelsEye Technology research, "Indian trucking sector is suffering from losses of 2-3 crore per day in faulty toll transactions. The Gurugram-based logistics tech startup has revealed this figure in a research conducted on over 5 lakh FASTag users. WheelsEve claimed that one out of every 60 FASTag transactions is faulty, as a result of which truck owners lose hard-earned money every day. This survey prompted the startup to develop an auto-detection and refund feature for wrong or double toll deductions from FASTag accounts. In an industry-first move, the company has launched an auto-detection & refund system for faulty FASTag transactions. The feature comprises an Al-based automated detection process and generates refunds to users who

have been charged extra. The system works across all FASTag enabled toll plazas of India. The new feature promises quicker refunds for faulty deductions by reverse integrating the refund with the National Payments Corporation of India and IDFC Bank. Providing relief to affected customers, the company has also shrunk the process to just three to five days from an earlier 21 days.

"E-toll collection systems are a symbol of developing economies. They enable a faster transit, check leakage, and create an efficient flow of money. While countries like Norway, Italy, Japan, USA, Germany have their e-toll collection systems since as early as 1969, India has just begun. It got a massive push due to the



government making it mandatory and COVID-19 forcing contactless While toll transactions. have reached a massive scale on adoption, we are still way behind in providing a glitch-free and smooth experience" says Sonesh Jain, Spokesperson, WheelsEve Technology.

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways ordered that FASTags will become mandatory from January 1, 2021. There will be no more cash lanes at the toll plazas. It has also been made mandatory to register a new vehicle, to renew or purchase insurance, and even pay traffic fines in Chennai.