The Role of Connectivity in Making Dholera Smart City a Global Hub

Connectivity is the backbone of economic growth and urban development in the modern era. A well-connected city fosters industrial expansion, enhances trade efficiency, and improves the quality of life for residents. Seamless transportation and communication are crucial for businesses, industries, and individuals alike.

Dholera Smart City, envisioned as a key node in the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC), has been meticulously planned to bridge the gap between local and global markets. As India's first **Greenfield Smart City in Gujarat**, Dholera is not just an infrastructure project—it is a vision for the future, integrating world-class transportation systems and digital connectivity to attract industries and professionals seeking a seamless, efficient urban ecosystem.

Unmatched Local Connectivity

Dholera Smart City is being built with an extensive multimodal transport network that connects every part of the city efficiently. The infrastructure is designed to enhance accessibility, reduce congestion, and promote sustainable urban mobility.

Ahmedabad-Dholera Expressway: A Fast-Track Connection to Gujarat's Financial Hub

- The six-lane, 109-kilometer Ahmedabad-Dholera Expressway is a fully accesscontrolled corridor that will cut down travel time between Ahmedabad and Dholera to under one hour.
- This expressway is a Rs. 3,000 crore project and is expected to boost industrial investments in the **Dholera Special Investment Region (SIR)** by ensuring rapid and seamless connectivity for businesses and commuters.
- The expressway is also part of the Bharatmala Pariyojana, an ambitious highway development initiative by the Government of India aimed at improving logistics and reducing travel times across the country.

Internal Road Network Designed for Efficiency & Sustainability

- Dholera's master plan includes wide, multi-lane roads with dedicated pedestrian pathways and cycling tracks to support its **walk-to-work culture**.
- The city's road network features smart traffic management systems and IoT-based signals to ensure smooth flow and minimize congestion.

 The city is implementing electric public transport solutions such as e-buses and EV charging stations, aligning with its sustainability goals.

Dholera: A Global Transit Hub in the Making

Dholera is not just about local accessibility; it is being developed as a **world-class global transit hub**, ensuring businesses and industries in the region have seamless access to international markets.

Dholera International Airport Will Be a Game-Changer for Trade & Travel

- The **Dholera International Airport** is a Rs. 1,305 crore project being developed over 1.427 hectares.
- It is expected to handle 50 million passengers annually in the long run and will cater to both domestic and international flights.
- The airport's **Phase 1 (2026-27)** aims to handle 1.5 million passengers per year, with capacity expansion planned in future phases.
- This airport will reduce the burden on Ahmedabad's **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport**, providing Gujarat with a second major aviation hub.

Proximity to Ports: Export-Ready Industrial Connectivity

- Dholera's proximity to major ports such as **Mundra**, **Pipavav**, **and Kandla** gives businesses direct access to international trade routes.
- **Mundra Port**, India's largest private port, handles 150+ million metric tons of cargo annually, making it an ideal gateway for export-driven industries in Dholera.
- These ports allow industries in sectors like automobile manufacturing, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals to efficiently ship goods worldwide, significantly cutting down logistics costs.

Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC): Revolutionizing Goods Transport

- The **Western Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC)**, a \$13 billion mega project, runs parallel to the DMIC, ensuring high-speed movement of goods from Dholera to Mumbai, Delhi, and beyond.
- The **DFC will reduce freight transit time by 40%**, ensuring cost-effective and time-efficient logistics for businesses operating in Dholera.
- It will connect Dholera to key industrial hubs such as **Vadodara**, **Surat**, **and Mumbai**, making supply chain management faster and more reliable.

Connectivity as a Business Advantage

Businesses that establish operations in Dholera benefit significantly from its state-of-the-art connectivity infrastructure, which provides key advantages:

Cost-Efficient Transport Solutions

- The integration of highways, railways, ports, and an international airport allows businesses to optimize transportation expenses, lowering operational costs.
- The DFC's electrified railway network will provide an environmentally friendly alternative to traditional diesel-powered freight transport, reducing carbon footprints for companies.

Fast Market Access for Industries

- **Dholera's seamless connectivity** allows industries to rapidly ship goods across India and export products internationally, reducing turnaround times.
- The presence of **logistics parks and warehouses** near the airport and expressway further enhances supply chain efficiency.

Strategic Location: Gateway to India's Economic Centers

- Located within 100 kilometers of Ahmedabad, Dholera enjoys proximity to one of India's biggest economic hubs.
- The city's direct link to **Delhi and Mumbai**, India's two largest metropolitan regions, positions it as a prime destination for businesses looking for strategic industrial expansion.

Boosting High-Growth Industries with Superior Connectivity

Dholera's world-class connectivity infrastructure is attracting investment in several **high-growth industries**, including:

Semiconductors & Electronics Manufacturing

- India's \$10 billion Semiconductor Mission aims to establish Dholera as a hub for semiconductor fabrication and chip manufacturing.
- Semiconductor manufacturing requires **precise**, **high-speed logistics**, which Dholera can offer via its airport, expressway, and port connectivity.

E-Commerce & Warehousing

• The rise of **e-commerce giants like Amazon and Flipkart** has increased demand for high-speed logistics and last-mile connectivity.

 The DFC and expressway network allow for rapid deliveries across western India, making Dholera an ideal location for fulfillment centers and distribution hubs.

Heavy Industries & Advanced Manufacturing

- With dedicated industrial zones and tax incentives under DMIC, Dholera is emerging as a manufacturing hub for automobiles, renewable energy equipment, and engineering goods.
- Its connectivity ensures smooth **procurement of raw materials** and distribution of finished products, giving industries a competitive edge.

How Connectivity is Driving Real Estate Growth in Dholera

Real estate investments are driven by strong connectivity, and Dholera is witnessing large-scale investments in **industrial**, **residential**, **and commercial properties**:

- **Industrial plots in Dholera** and warehouses are in high demand due to Dholera's logistics advantages.
- **Dholera residential projects** are increasing as professionals and businesses seek a well-connected urban lifestyle.
- Commercial Plots near the airport in Gujarat are growing in demand as businesses look for premium locations.
- 3/4 BHK flats in Dholera and affordable plots in Dholera are attracting homebuyers looking for smart investment options.

Conclusion

Dholera Smart City exemplifies how world-class connectivity can transform a region into a **global business hub**. Its strategic location, **multi-modal transport infrastructure**, and seamless integration with domestic and international markets make it an ideal destination for industries and residents alike.

For industries, **Dholera provides logistical efficiency and cost savings**. For residents, it offers **high-quality urban living** with easy access to workplaces and amenities. With its **unmatched connectivity** and **future-ready infrastructure**, Dholera is not just a smart city—it is a **gateway to India's next phase of industrial and economic growth**.

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