

# AMTOI

Volume 6, Issue 1, Quarterly News December 2025 | [www.amtoi.org](http://www.amtoi.org)

## NEWS

### Living Legacy Mapping the Future Journey

Atmanirbhar Bharat and Multimodal Logistics



## Feature 7

### Living Legacy - Mapping the Future Journey The PDP Group®: Five Decades of Building India's Multimodal Backbone

#### Group Companies:

M/s PDP International Pvt Ltd

M/s P. D. Prasad & Sons Pvt Ltd

M/s Allied ICD Services Ltd

#### Founder's Vision and the Early Journey

The story of The PDP Group® is rooted in the vision of our founder, Late Shri Durga Prasad Pandey, a man whose foresight and integrity laid the foundation for one of Eastern India's most respected logistics organizations.

In the mid-1960s, when logistics in India was still synonymous with basic transport operations, he foresaw the transformative potential of organized logistics services that could bridge inland industrial centres with gateway ports.

Starting with a small customs broking operation in Kolkata, Shri Durga Prasad Pandey built a business anchored in trust, service commitment,

and customer-centricity. His belief was simple yet powerful "Infrastructure and logistics are not just about movement of cargo, but about building national capacity."

This guiding philosophy became the cornerstone of The PDP



Founder of 'The PDP Group®', Shri Durga Prasad Pandey addressing PDPians during a company event in 1997

Group's growth and continues to inspire every initiative we undertake today.

#### Milestones That Defined the Journey

Over the last five decades, The PDP Group® has evolved from a modest customs broker into a **multimodal logistics conglomerate**, offering integrated solutions across ports, rail, road, ICDs, and warehousing under the leadership of **Mr. Pramod Kumar Srivastava**.

- **1970—1990s:** Establishment and recognition of The PDP Group's customs broking company, M/s P. D. Prasad & Sons Pvt Ltd with steady expansion across Kolkata Port, Haldia Port, as well as Land Customs Stations of Bangladesh.

- **1990s:** Entry into containerized freight forwarding and port-based operations with incorporation of M/s PDP International Pvt Ltd; obtaining MTO Accreditation by DG Shipping in 1997 and IATA accreditation in 1998
- **2006:** Commissioning of **ICD Durgapur (Code: INDUR6)** under M/s Allied ICD Services Ltd., marking a landmark achievement as the **first Inland Container Depot in West Bengal**, bringing customs, warehousing, and multimodal infrastructure closer to the heart of India's industrial belt.
- **2010s:** Expansion of the group's warehousing and cargo handling facilities at Kolkata Port area with launch of '**PDP Shrinkhala**' cargo handling site
- **2020s:** Launch of warehousing networks in Haldia and Tripura, as well as full-fledged logistics setups in Visakhapatnam and Mundra.

Each milestone has been a reflection of our founder's ethos **resilience, reliability, and reinvention.**

### Growth Story and Institutional Strength

The PDP Group's strength lies in its ability to continuously adapt to the needs of the trade while staying rooted in ethical business practices. Our companies PDP International Pvt. Ltd., P. D. Prasad & Sons Pvt. Ltd., and Allied ICD Services Ltd. — have together created a seamless ecosystem connecting Kolkata, Haldia, Durgapur, and the hinterland industrial zones of eastern India.

Today, **ICD Durgapur** handles nearly **18,000 TEUs annually**, serving major exporters and

importers such as Graphite India, PCBL Chemicals, and Shakambhari Group. The facility provides bonded and non-bonded warehousing, rail-linked container operations, and modern cargo-handling



infrastructure.

Our integrated approach has not only optimized logistics costs for industries but also supports the government's Make-in-India and Ease of Doing Business missions.

The Group's collaboration with **Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port (SMPK), Eastern Railway, ADDA, DGFT, and CBIC** reflects a shared vision to make logistics smarter, greener, and more inclusive.

### Atmanirbhar Bharat and Multimodal Logistics

The call for Atmanirbhar Bharat has redefined India's logistics narrative from dependency to self-reliance, from fragmented systems to integrated multimodal infrastructure.

At The PDP Group®, we believe true self-reliance in logistics means building indigenous capacity, fostering regional hubs, and creating platforms that connect inland India to global markets efficiently.

Our initiatives at Durgapur, including proposals for an **18-acre Multimodal Logistics Park (MMLP)** and a **private rail siding under the PM GatiShakti Terminal Policy**, are designed to transform the region into a cost-effective gateway for export-import trade.

### Next-Generation Leadership

The next phase of our journey is being driven by **Mr. Avishkar Srivastava**, our **Chief Innovation Officer**, who represents the Group's new generation of leadership.

Under his guidance, we are adopting digital transformation, sustainability practices, and human-capital development as core pillars of growth. His recognition as winner of 2022 FIATA Young Logistics Professional for Asia Pacific region reflects not only his individual achievement but also our institutional commitment to nurturing young talent in logistics.

This intergenerational transition is central to our legacy continuity with innovation, tradition with technology.

### Future Vision and Sustainable Growth

Looking ahead, The PDP Group® envisions a carbon-efficient, technology-driven logistics network that integrates ICD Durgapur, Kolkata Port, Haldia, and Vizag into a seamless multimodal corridor.

Our roadmap for 2030 includes:

- Commissioning a **dedicated rail terminal** under PM GatiShakti.
- Expanding Warehousing Projects with green building certification.

- Implementing **EV-based cargo movement** within the ICD and CFS ecosystem.
- Building **driver rest areas and training academies** to address the industry's most vital human resource challenges.

By combining legacy values with forward-looking reforms, we aim to create a logistics model that is both profitable and purposeful.

### Why Logistics in 2025 and Beyond

India's logistics landscape in 2025 is at a turning point powered by digitalization, policy reform, and manufacturing growth. However, the real transformation will come from institutional endurance companies that have built trust over decades and continue to evolve responsibly.

Family-led enterprises like The PDP

Group® have a crucial role here. They bring not only operational



expertise but also a generational sense of stewardship ensuring that logistics remains not just a business, but a nation-building mission.

As we look ahead to the next fifty years, our promise remains unchanged:

To build logistics infrastructure that connects India's potential to the world sustainably, efficiently, and proudly.

### Conclusion: A Living Legacy

From Late Shri Durga Prasad Pandey's humble beginnings to today's multimodal network spanning rail, road, and port operations The PDP Group's journey mirrors India's own evolution as a logistics power.

Our legacy lives not only in infrastructure but in the thousands of people who make the system move drivers, handlers, officers, and innovators who together make "Atmanirbhar Bharat" a living reality.

For us, the future of logistics is not a destination it is a continuation of a legacy, mapped with integrity, innovation, and inclusion.