

- **Facilitating the participation of exporters** in various overseas exhibitions
- **Dissemination** of **trade-related data** to its members.

📌 Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme

- Nodal Ministry → **Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry**
- Objective → It is an **Export Promotion Scheme**. The scheme aims to act as a catalyst to promote India's exports on a sustained basis.
- Product and Country Focus Approach → The scheme is formulated on the basis of the **product and country focus approach**. It will **evolve specific markets and specific products** through **market studies/surveys**.

6. Rating mechanism for National Highways

Why in News?

- The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways(MoRTH) released the first-ever rating mechanism for National Highways.

About

- Conducted by → **National Highways Authority of India** (NHAI) under the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways(MoRTH).
- Objective → The fundamental objective of highway rating is "**Minimum time with maximum safety in a stress-free environment**" for the highway users. Apart from that, it will also **improve the government's accountability** towards road users.
- Parameters: Each toll plaza of the highway is judged based on three major criteria. They are **Highway Efficiency**(45%), **Highway Safety**(35%), **User Friendly**(20%).
- Note: There are **no such criteria** that have been developed **across the world to evaluate** the performance of highways from the user perspective.
- How many National Highways have been covered in the rating mechanism?
 - The rating has been done for **all 219 national highway** stretches across the country. They cover a **distance of 18,668 km**.
 - Four corridors are selected for rating i.e. **Agra-Mumbai**(1,084 km), **Pune-Vijayawada**(856 km), **Mumbai-Kolkata**(1,927 km), **Bangalore-Kanyakumari** (655 km).
- Best and worst Highway according to the rating mechanism
 - The **best** is the **102-km stretch** of the six-lane **Ahmedabad-Vadodara section** of National Highway (NH)-48.
 - The **worst** stretch is the **45-km Indore-Dewas section** of **NH-3**, which connects Agra to Mumbai.

📌 Golden Quadrilateral:

- The Golden Quadrilateral(GQ) is a **national highway network**. It is connecting most of the major industrial, agricultural and cultural centres of India.
- It forms a quadrilateral **connecting the four major metro cities** of India, viz., **Delhi** (north), **Kolkata** (east), **Mumbai** (west) and **Chennai** (south).