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**THE  
NAVIO DIGEST  
JUNE 2026**

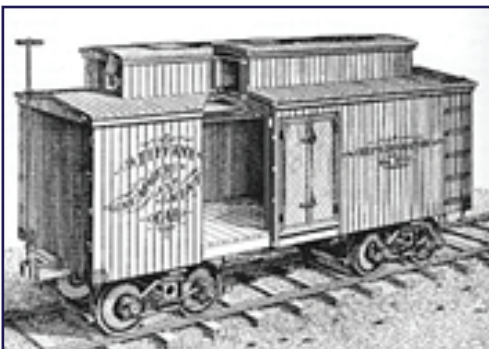
## Unveiling the History of Cold Chain Logistics

Cold chain logistics has revolutionized the transportation and storage of perishable goods, becoming a critical pillar of modern trade, healthcare, and food security. From fresh seafood and dairy products to life-saving vaccines, temperature-controlled logistics ensures products remain safe and high in quality throughout their journey.



The origins of the cold chain can be traced back to the mid-19th century, when British fishermen sought ways to keep their catch cool in ports before it reached the market. Around the same period, advances in refrigeration technology began reshaping commercial transportation. Reefer ships and refrigerated railway cars soon entered service, allowing meat, dairy, and other perishables to be transported across long distances without spoilage.

A major milestone came in 1882 with the opening of the first effective cold store at St Katharine Docks in London. This innovation significantly improved large-scale food preservation and distribution. Later, in the 1940s, the first mobile refrigeration vehicle was patented in the United States, paving the way for refrigerated road transport. By the 1950s, refrigerated trucks and freight trains were regularly carrying perishable goods across countries and continents, supporting the rapid growth of supermarkets and frozen food industries.



Over time, cold chain logistics expanded beyond food transportation. The pharmaceutical industry increasingly relied on temperature-controlled systems for medicines, vaccines, and biotechnology products. Its importance became especially visible during the COVID-19 pandemic, when vaccines required strict temperature monitoring during global distribution. Today, advanced cold chain systems use GPS tracking, IoT sensors, and real-time monitoring technologies to maintain product integrity. As global trade and healthcare continue to expand, cold chain logistics remains an essential link connecting producers, businesses, and consumers worldwide.

## Rising Fuel Prices Deepen Stress in Logistics Sector

India's logistics sector is under renewed pressure following the May 2026 fuel price hike, which has sharply increased operational costs across transport and supply chains. Diesel prices rose by nearly ₹3.9 per litre due to geopolitical tensions in West Asia and the Strait of Hormuz crisis, adding to already high costs from tolls, tyres, and volatile freight rates. The impact is being felt across road transport, warehousing, cold chain logistics, and shipping, forcing companies to reassess pricing and supply chain models.



### Margins Under Stress As Diesel Costs Climb

Rising diesel prices are increasing pressure on India's logistics sector, where fuel accounts for nearly 50–55% of operating costs for heavy commercial vehicles. With road transport handling most freight movement, higher fuel costs are pushing up freight charges and creating long-term margin challenges.

### Freight Rates Begin Climbing Across Corridors

The May 2026 fuel hike, along with higher DEF prices, tolls and tyre costs, has increased freight rates by 2.5–3 % across logistics corridors. Last-mile delivery networks are among the worst affected, prompting companies to focus on route optimisation, rail integration and EV adoption to control costs.

### Strait Of Hormuz Crisis Intensifies Global Freight Volatility

Geopolitical tensions around the Strait of Hormuz have sharply increased global shipping costs, with bunker fuel prices rising nearly 59% since February 2026. Shipping lines have introduced surcharges and operational cuts, driving ocean freight rates up nearly 40 per cent year-on-year.



## Cold Chain Logistics Faces A High-Risk Situation

Cold chain operators are facing severe pressure as refrigerated transport depends heavily on continuous diesel usage. Rising fuel and supply costs, along with operational uncertainties, are making long-term planning increasingly difficult for the sector.

## Technology, EVs And Multimodal Logistics Gain Urgency

The crisis is accelerating the adoption of AI-driven planning, route optimisation, fuel monitoring systems and multimodal logistics. Companies are also increasing investments in EVs and rail freight to reduce dependence on diesel.

## A Structural Reset For India's Logistics Industry

The latest fuel hike has exposed the fragile economics of India's logistics sector, pushing the industry toward a structural reset. Experts say technology, energy efficiency and better planning visibility will be critical for long-term survival.

# NAVIO SPOTLIGHT

Our "Little Navigators at Work" event brought smiles, laughter, and learning as our employees welcomed their children to experience a day in their workplace.





## SPELLATHON

**Today's Ratings:**  
 20-average | 23-good |  
 25-outstanding



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown in today's puzzle? In making a word, a letter can be used as many times as it appears in the puzzle. Each word must contain the central letter. There should be at least one seven letter word. Plurals, foreign words and proper names are not allowed. British English Dictionary is used as reference.

Answers :  
 nectar, nice, nicer, race, react, recant, rice, trace, trance, trice  
 acne, acre, antic, cane, cant, cater, care, cart, cater, cent, CERTAIN, cite, crane, crate, enact

# MEME



# QUOTE

“Strength does not come from physical capacity. It comes from an indomitable will. ”

– Mahatma Gandhi

UAE | INDIA | OMAN | MALAYSIA | SINGAPORE | QATAR

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Chennai | Bengaluru | Ahmedabad | Kolkata | Visakhapatnam | Ludhiana