

3PL Logistics Company in India: Top Providers & Selection Guide



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3PL LOGISTICS COMPANY IN INDIA:

TOP PROVIDERS & SELECTION GUIDE

-  Warehouse Solutions
-  Transportation Management
-  Inventory Management
-  End-to-End Solutions

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Choosing a [3PL logistics company in India](#) is no longer simply about finding a warehouse and arranging transportation. For many businesses, the logistics partner now influences inventory accuracy, order fulfilment, delivery speed, working capital and even customer experience.

This matters because India's logistics market is becoming more distributed. E-commerce and D2C brands are expanding beyond major metros, manufacturers are redesigning distribution networks, and 3PL providers are investing in larger and more technology-enabled facilities. CBRE reported that 3PL providers remained a major source of demand for Indian warehousing, while 3PL players themselves are planning further portfolio expansion.

In reality, the difficult part is not finding companies that offer 3PL services. The difficult part is identifying which provider fits your shipment profile, inventory model, geography and growth plans.

This guide compares major 3PL providers and explains what businesses should examine before signing a contract.

How India's 3PL Market Is Changing

The Indian 3PL market is moving beyond traditional storage and transportation. A modern provider may be responsible for receiving stock, warehousing, inventory control, picking, packing, transportation, delivery coordination and returns.

The change is particularly visible in e-commerce. Businesses increasingly want inventory positioned closer to customers, faster order processing and better visibility rather than simply more warehouse space. DHL, for example, describes modern 3PL capabilities as combining warehousing, fulfilment, transportation, distribution, visibility and analytics.

For manufacturers and B2B businesses, the requirements are different. They may need inbound material movement, line-side supply, scheduled transportation, regional distribution centres and specialised handling. TCI's current service portfolio, for example, includes 3PL/4PL, warehousing, inbound and outbound logistics, multimodal transportation, rail movement and LTL/FTL services.

That difference is important. A provider that works extremely well for an e-commerce seller may not be the right operational partner for an automotive manufacturer.

Leading 3PL Logistics Companies in India

There is no universally correct ranking because the best provider depends heavily on the business model. The companies below are better viewed as established options across different 3PL requirements rather than a rigid No. 1 to No. 7 ranking.

1. DHL Supply Chain

DHL Supply Chain is particularly relevant for large businesses requiring contract logistics, fulfilment, transportation and technology-supported supply chain management.

Its Indian fulfilment network combines warehouses, cross-docks, technology and dedicated teams. DHL currently reports 142 warehouses, offices and cross-docks in India, with more than 1.1 million square metres of space across its network.

Its capabilities extend beyond storage. Businesses can use inventory visibility, order fulfilment, transport management and analytics through its digital ecosystem. DHL also provides specialised solutions for industries where storage, tracking or handling requirements are more demanding.

Best suited for: Large enterprises, e-commerce businesses, manufacturers and brands requiring scalable contract logistics.

Potential limitation: Smaller businesses may find a large enterprise-oriented operating model more than they actually need.

2. Mahindra Logistics

Mahindra Logistics is a strong option for businesses looking for integrated supply chain and contract logistics capabilities. Its services include contract logistics, freight forwarding, B2B express and last-mile delivery.

The company has particular relevance for sectors such as automotive, manufacturing, consumer goods and other enterprise supply chains where transportation and warehousing have to work together rather than operate as isolated services.

Its technology focus is also worth considering. Mahindra Logistics highlights real-time visibility, operational efficiency and technology-led supply chain solutions across its offerings.

Best suited for: Enterprises, manufacturers and businesses with complex B2B supply chains.

Potential limitation: A small D2C seller looking primarily for parcel shipping may not need the breadth of an enterprise 3PL model.

3. TCI Supply Chain Solutions

TCI has a broad logistics portfolio that makes it suitable for businesses requiring more than conventional warehousing. Its current services include 3PL/4PL, end-to-end supply chain solutions, warehousing, inbound and outbound logistics, multimodal transportation, rail and container movement, and LTL/FTL.

This breadth is particularly useful for businesses moving industrial or commercial cargo across multiple transportation modes.

TCI also works across sectors including automotive, retail, consumer goods, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, engineering and electrical industries.

Best suited for: Manufacturers, distributors, enterprise B2B operations and businesses requiring multimodal logistics.

Potential limitation: Businesses seeking a lightweight e-commerce fulfilment solution may prefer a more specialised fulfilment model.

4. OnPoint Logistics

OnPoint Logistics is positioned around integrated transportation, 3PL, inventory management and fulfilment support for businesses.

Its 3PL offering covers inventory planning, warehouse and fulfilment operations, real-time inventory tracking and shipment management. The company also highlights rail and road connectivity, flexible freight options and scalable warehouse and inventory solutions.

For businesses that need logistics coordination without building an extensive internal logistics operation, this model can be useful. OnPoint also provides road, air and train express services, scheduled deliveries and appointment-based logistics, allowing businesses to combine different transportation requirements.

Best suited for: MSMEs, e-commerce businesses and growing companies looking for flexible 3PL, inventory and transportation support.

Potential advantage: Businesses can combine warehousing, inventory management and transportation requirements through a single logistics partner.

5. TVS Supply Chain Solutions

TVS Supply Chain Solutions is another established name worth evaluating for businesses with complex supply chain requirements. Its positioning is particularly relevant to integrated supply chain operations rather than simple parcel delivery.

The company has continued expanding through business wins and freight volumes, with recent financial reporting showing strong revenue growth in FY26.

For larger organisations, the value of such a provider generally lies in managing interconnected supply chain activities rather than simply moving individual shipments.

Best suited for: Large manufacturers, enterprise supply chains and businesses with complex operational requirements.

Potential limitation: Its capabilities may exceed the needs of smaller businesses looking for straightforward fulfilment.

3PL Providers Compared

Provider	Best For	Main Strength	B2B	E-commerce
DHL Supply Chain	Enterprise & scalable fulfilment	Global-standard contract logistics	Strong	Strong

Mahindra Logistics	Manufacturing & enterprise	Integrated supply chain	Strong	Moderate
TCI	B2B & multimodal operations	Transportation + 3PL	Strong	Moderate
OnPoint Logistics	MSMEs & growing businesses	3PL + inventory + transportation	Strong	Strong
TVS Supply Chain Solutions	Complex enterprise supply chains	Integrated supply chain management	Strong	Moderate

These comparisons should be treated as directional. Service availability, commercial terms and operational fit can vary by location and contract.

How to Choose the Right 3PL Logistics Company in India

The first mistake businesses make is comparing only the per-shipment rate.

A proper evaluation starts with the physical nature of the operation. A business selling cosmetics online may need item-level inventory control, batch tracking, pick-and-pack fulfilment and returns processing. A manufacturer may care more about inbound material schedules, pallet storage, line-side delivery and freight reliability.

Then examine the actual operating geography. Ask the provider to demonstrate serviceability for your top shipping locations rather than relying on a nationwide coverage statement. One issue businesses often discover after onboarding is that broad network coverage does not automatically mean identical performance in every region.

Technology also deserves practical scrutiny. Can inventory be viewed in near real time? Can orders integrate with your ERP or e-commerce platform? How are discrepancies handled? Is proof of delivery digital? Can the provider identify delayed shipments before they become customer complaints?

Finally, test how the provider handles exceptions. A warehouse that performs perfectly during normal volumes tells you little about how it behaves during a seasonal spike, delayed inbound shipment or sudden inventory mismatch.

What Actually Determines 3PL Cost?

[Affordable 3PL logistics solutions](#) should be judged on total operating cost, not simply warehouse rent or freight rates.

Pricing may include storage, receiving, picking, packing, dispatch, transportation, loading, unloading, returns, special handling and technology-related services. Transportation costs can also vary according to actual or volumetric weight, distance, service type, fuel-related charges and delivery geography.

For example, a provider offering a lower freight rate may still become more expensive if its RTO rate is high or its inventory accuracy is poor. A few percentage points of inventory discrepancy can create operational costs that never appear on the original quotation.

This is why businesses should request a complete cost sheet and model it against actual monthly shipment data before making a decision.

Why Technology Matters in 3PL Operations

Technology is useful only when it improves a real operational decision.

Inventory management logistics services should allow businesses to understand what stock has arrived, what has been picked, what is available and what needs replenishment. Transportation visibility should make delayed shipments easier to identify and resolve.

Modern fulfillment systems can also connect orders with warehouse operations, carriers and tracking. DHL, for example, provides customers with visibility into warehouse and transport operations, stock levels, reporting and analytics through MySupplyChain.

For a growing business, this visibility can reduce manual coordination considerably. But technology should never replace operational accountability. A sophisticated dashboard is of little use if physical inventory does not match the system.

When End-to-End 3PL Makes Sense

End-to-end 3PL logistics services become particularly valuable when logistics activities have become too interconnected to manage separately.

Suppose a growing manufacturer has three warehouses, multiple suppliers and regular B2B deliveries. Managing warehousing with one vendor, transportation with another and inventory reconciliation internally may create gaps between each stage.

A capable third party logistics service provider can take responsibility for several connected activities and create a single operating process.

For an e-commerce business, the equivalent may involve receiving inventory, storing products, processing orders, picking and packing, dispatching shipments and handling returns.

The important question is not whether a provider offers every service. It is whether those services work together reliably.

Why Businesses May Need More Than One Logistics Partner

Using multiple providers can make sense when businesses have very different shipment profiles.

One provider may be stronger for heavy B2B cargo, another for e-commerce parcels, while a third may offer better regional performance. The challenge is management. Multiple providers mean multiple contracts, invoices, tracking systems and escalation processes.

This is where a flexible logistics partner can add value by coordinating different transportation requirements while keeping inventory and shipment visibility more centralised.

For businesses evaluating OnPoint Logistics, its combination of 3PL and inventory management with road, rail, air and scheduled delivery capabilities may be relevant where operations require more than one transportation mode.

Conclusion

Selecting a 3PL logistics company in India should ultimately be treated as an operational decision, not simply a vendor-selection exercise.

The right provider should improve inventory accuracy, fulfilment speed, transportation reliability and visibility while giving your business enough flexibility to handle growth. Large enterprises may benefit from the scale of providers such as DHL Supply Chain, Mahindra Logistics, TCI or TVS Supply Chain Solutions, while growing businesses may prefer a more flexible operating model.

Do not make the final decision from a quotation alone. Examine the warehouse process, ask how inventory discrepancies are handled, check your actual delivery locations, understand the complete cost structure and test the technology before committing.

Businesses looking for flexible 3PL logistics services in India can also explore OnPoint Logistics' 3PL and inventory management solutions and discuss their specific warehousing, inventory and transportation requirements.

FAQs

Q.1: What is a 3PL logistics company in India?

Ans. A 3PL company manages logistics activities on behalf of another business. Depending on the contract, this can include warehousing, inventory management, order fulfilment, transportation, distribution and returns. The main benefit is that businesses can outsource operational complexity instead of building every logistics capability internally.

Q.2: Which 3PL company is best for e-commerce businesses?

Ans. The right provider depends on order volume, SKU count, geography and fulfilment requirements. E-commerce businesses should prioritise item-level inventory accuracy, fast pick-and-pack, integrations, carrier connectivity, tracking and returns management rather than choosing a provider solely on warehouse pricing.

Q.3: What services does a 3PL provider offer?

Ans. Typical services include warehousing, inventory management, order fulfilment, transportation, distribution and reverse logistics. More advanced providers may also offer technology integration, analytics, packaging, cross-docking and multimodal transportation.

Q.4: How much do 3PL services cost in India?

Ans. There is no single standard 3PL rate. Costs depend on storage requirements, inventory volume, handling, order frequency, shipment weight, transportation distance, service levels and value-added services. Businesses should compare total logistics cost rather than only storage or freight rates.

Q.5: What is the difference between 3PL and a courier company?

Ans. A courier company primarily focuses on moving shipments from pickup to delivery. A 3PL provider can manage a much broader operation, including warehousing, inventory, fulfilment, transportation and distribution. Some logistics companies offer both types of services.