

The State of Development of Distribution Infrastructure in the Three Northeastern Provinces of China

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Summary

The transportation network of the three northeastern provinces is comprised of rail, road, water (inland rivers and maritime transportation) and air. The railways and roads involved in overland freight transportation play a major role within the transportation system.

Excluding such coastal cities as Dalian and Yingkou, what is most important in carrying out transportation in the inland parts of the three northeastern provinces is the development and upgrading of rail and road infrastructure. The state of the development and upgrading in those areas has become a key point in attracting domestic and overseas manufacturing firms.

Consequently in recent years, the development of the large-scale infrastructure of passenger-dedicated railway lines, high-speed railway lines and expressways has been effectuated in the three northeastern provinces. This expansion work and development, along with being a prerequisite for the future economic development of the three northeastern provinces, holds great significance for Northeast Asian international distribution also. Nevertheless, challenges still remain for the distribution infrastructure in the three northeastern provinces, including the points where the development of distribution infrastructure hasn't caught up with the extent of economic growth and the incompleteness of the expressways in the provincial border areas.

The three northeastern provinces, which have a population of over 100 million, also have potential as a major consuming region in Northeast Asia, via expanding the industrial linkages within the region aimed at the formation of one large consuming area, and striving to enlarge the consumer market accompanying the raising of income levels. In the future, for enterprises expanding overseas, including those of Japan, the possibility is high for the three northeastern provinces becoming a domestic-sales manufacturing hub, assuming there is a business model of high-completeness within China. Therefore, while keeping its attention on the subsequent state of development of the three northeastern provinces, it is necessary for Japan to continue examining the direction of support in the area of distribution, including the cultivation of human resources.