



CMEC

Centre for Maritime Economy and Connectivity

समुद्री अर्थव्यवस्था व संयोजन केंद्र

Maritime Briefing

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi marked the inauguration of “*Global Maritime India Summit*”(GMIS) 2023 with a significant stride, setting the stage for transformative projects valued at ₹18,800 crores, further bolstered by the signing of 34 MoUs totaling ₹3.24 lakh crores during the inaugural session. Notably, the initiatives encompassed an emphasis on green projects securing ₹1.8 lakh crore, alongside substantial commitments towards port development and modernization amounting to ₹1.1 lakh crore. The event was pivotal as the Prime Minister unveiled the Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047, outlining a comprehensive roadmap for the maritime sector's development over the next 25 years, aspiring to unlock investments totaling ₹80 lakh crores. Union Minister MoPSW Shri Sarbananda Sonowal was joined by 10 ministers from various countries on the dias, while 21 ministers from 10 nations engaged in diverse sessions at GMIS 2023. The global summit attracted 60 representatives at the Global Economic Corridors roundtable, including CEOs from 33 international and 17 Indian companies, underlining collaborative efforts. GMIS 2023 witnessed an impressive commitment, surpassing ₹10 lakh crores, resonating with the ambitious Vision 2047. The event drew 215 international and national speakers, with the participation of 50,000 attendees, amalgamating physical and virtual presence, signifying a pivotal beginning in reshaping the maritime landscape of India.



Launch of the book “*Propelling India’s Maritime Vision*” at GMIS 2023. The Governor of Maharashtra Shri Ramesh Bais, Chief Minister of Maharashtra Shri Eknath Sambhaji Shinde, and Union Minister MoPSW Shri Sarbananda Sonowal along with CMEC Coordinator Shri Subhomoy Bhattacharjee



CMEC seeks to provide policy inputs to MoPSW as per the Maritime Vision 2030. This includes support for the growth and diversification of India's maritime sector & developing areas of cooperation and collaboration of the Indian Ocean nations.

Reach us at -

Centre For Maritime Economy and Connectivity (CMEC) Research and Information Systems for Developing Countries(RIS), Core 4B 4TH Floor, India Habitat Centre

connect with us at - cmec@ris.org.in

CMEC steers 4 roundtables at GMIS 2023



Roundtable on Global Economic Corridor

The session on the Global Economic Corridor was held at GMIS 2023 on 17th October, right after the inaugural event. The Session was chaired by Union Minister MoPSW Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, and moderated by Dr. Sachin Chaturvedi, DG RIS. As many as 60 representatives from various countries, attended the Round Table, which included CEOs from 33 international companies and 17 Indian companies. Union Minister MoPSW Shri Sarbananda Sonowal highlighted India's proactive approach to economic corridors and the significance of the IMEC. Shri T.K. Ramachandran, Secretary MoPSW highlighted that IMEC will be very ambitious in terms of its reach and Connecting the eastern part of the world with the west. The discussions by guest speakers from Italy, Denmark, and the Netherlands revolved around the concept of Corridors and their potential impact on inclusive and sustainable development. In this context, the proposed India-Middle East-Europe economic corridor (IMEC) was seen as promising sustainable solutions in terms of both raising finance and supporting the environment because of lesser voyage times. The possibilities for economic cooperation among the countries on the corridors and the challenges from new shipping routes were also highlighted. Notable initiatives like the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF), India-Myanmar-Thailand, and the Asia-Africa Growth Corridor were also mentioned in terms of how they led to the creation of a value-based economic framework. The speakers from around the world offered their insights, emphasizing that focus should also be laid on improving short-sea transport which would be critical to enhance connectivity with Western Europe. It was a general refrain that trust among the participating countries would be the basis for drawing up sound agreements to usher in collaborative efforts among the nations.



Roundtable on Europe

The session on Europe was held on 18th October at GMIS 2023. It was chaired by Shri Suman K Bery, Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, and was moderated by Shri Amitendu Palit Advisor to CMEC. The speakers drawn from regulators of European maritime nations among others, focused on India's maritime and shipping concerns and how these could be aligned with Europe's investment projections. Shri Sanjay Verma, Secretary (West) MEA, emphasized the multi-dimensional aspects of maritime connectivity, touching on economic, diplomatic, and security implications, while also underlining the thriving India-Nordic relations and the importance of bridging the gap with the EU. Mr. Andreas Nordseth, Director General of the Danish Maritime Authority, delved into the challenges and opportunities of green shipping and the transition to cleaner, decarbonized shipping practices, where he emphasized India's pivotal role in this green transition. Collaboration, international regulations, and a skilled workforce were deemed crucial for this transformation. Ms. Brigit Gijsbers DG, Aviation and Maritime Affairs, Netherlands highlighted the importance of green shipping, smart ports, and capacity building, emphasizing the significance of MoUs and collaboration between India and the Netherlands. Shri Rajesh Sinha, Additional Secretary, MoPSW touched upon ship recycling and related issues saying there was a need for the EU to recognise Indian interests as well. Other speakers from Italy and Norway touched on various elements such as digitization, sustainability, safety, and green ports. The key opportunities that flow from growing India-EU trade with the resultant rise in shipping capacities were also noted since those would need to be aligned with appropriate cross-country regulations and standards.



Roundtable on Indo Pacific

The Indo-Pacific session held on 19th October at GMIS 2023, was chaired by Minister of State MoPSW, Shri Shantanu Thakur, and moderated by Shri Subhomoy Bhattacharjee Coordinator CMEC. The Minister highlighted that the Indo-Pacific Ocean is a vital global navigation zone with potential for sustainable development and equitable growth. He said India emphasizes diversification and resilient supply chains, relying on maritime cooperation. Initiatives like IPEF and IPMDA promote clean, fair economies and security. He also added that India has pointed out the need to move away from economic concentration by encouraging diversification. These measures will de-risk the global economy to build more reliable and of resilient supply chains. So the steps that are taken in the Indo-Pacific shall be critical to achieve these goals for which maritime cooperation among the nations is essential. The session brought together esteemed guest speakers including H.E. Narek Teryan Deputy Economy Minister, Armenia, H.E. Mr. Jepbarov Rovshen Deputy Head "Turkmenenizderyayolary", Turkmenistan and Mr. Nimal Siripala De Silva, Minister of Ports, Shipping and Aviation, Sri Lanka. The session highlighted the critical need for increased cross-border cooperation, emphasized the pivotal role of the private sector in driving regional growth, and stressed the importance of embracing international best practices to ensure the Indo-Pacific's development and stability. Shri P Kumaran, OSD (ER&DPA), MEA focused on making the best ways to make this vast stretch of water serve the interests of the nations on both sides. They have opportunities like expanding the scope of their maritime trade but will also have to be cognizant of the new challenges like adopting sustainable technology and moving towards green shipping.



Roundtable on Africa

The Africa Roundtable was held on 19th October at GMIS 2023, chaired by Minister of State, MoPSW, Shri Shripad Naik, and moderated by Shri Subhomoy Bhattacharjee Coordinator CMEC, where prominent guests like H.E. Afretane Yousoufa Madjoini, the Hon'ble Minister for the Ministry of Regional Planning, Urban Development, Land Affairs, and Land Transportation, Comoros, and H.E. Suleiman Masoud Makame, the Minister of the Ministry of Blue Economy and Fisheries in Zanzibar, Tanzania, shared their insights. The Shri Sanjay Sethi Chairman of Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority was the convenor of the session, and highlighted ports are the key to trans-border and regional connectivity he also discussed the importance of Blue Economy. The discussion revolved around the need for balanced regional development, the creation of new growth opportunities, and the essential aspect of increased regional cooperation. In this context, the recent series of agreements signed between Tanzania and India in the sector was flagged with appreciation. The session also endorsed India's Indo-Pacific framework under the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) to highlight the importance of port activity, maritime transport, fishing, and tourism. In the discussions, port modernization emerged as a perceived key driver for economic growth and overall regional infrastructure improvement, promising a future of enhanced trade, investment, and prosperity in Africa. Shri P Kumaran, OSD (ER&DPA), MEA highlighted India's investments in Africa have been on the rise, signifying a growing economic engagement and partnership with Africa which signifies a multi-dimensional, enduring dedication that promises to enhance the overall development of both nations.