



# CMEC

Centre for Maritime Economy  
and Connectivity

समुद्री अर्थव्यवस्था व संयोजन केंद्र

## Maritime Briefing




The [19th Maritime State Development Council \(MSDC\)](#) meeting held by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways at Kevadia, Gujarat.

During the two-day conference, issues related to improving coordination between coastal ports, maritime boards, and both large and small ports, were discussed.



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.

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## **Port Health Organization (PHO) launched under Sagar Setu**

The Union Minister MoPSW, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal launched Port Health Organisation (PHO) module under Sagar Setu - National Logistics Portal (Marine) - to enable a faster and simpler ecosystem to promote Ease of Doing Business (EODB). PHO will conduct disease surveillance, health inspection, and quarantine measures to safeguard citizens and port workers.

## **India to become the global epicenter of Blue Economy**

Union Minister MoPSW Shri Sarbananda Sonowal announced that India has reached a significant turning point in its development towards the blue economy and is poised to be the driving force behind the next chapter in South Asia's maritime history as well as the global epicenter of the blue economy. The Minister delivered a special address (virtually) at the Visakhapatnam pre-event roadshow for GMIS 2023. The event, which served as an introduction to the Global Maritime India Summit 2023 (GMIS) 2023, highlighted the strategic importance of supporting maritime growth and connectivity in the area.

## **DP World and Kandla Port signed agreement to build a container terminal.**

DP World, and the Deendayal Port Authority signed a concession agreement for the purpose to build a container port in Tuna Tekra, a satellite facility of Kandla Port. The project would cost an estimated Rs. 4,243 crores. It is envisaged that the public-private partnership project, for which the tender was published last year, will start operating in early 2027. Once completed, it will include a 1,100-meter berth that can accommodate future ships that can transport more than 18,000 containers. This new terminal aims to fulfill the future requirements of the hinterland across the northwestern and central India.



## **SMP Kolkata soon to start regular cargo movement from Bangladesh**

The SMP Kolkata will very soon start regular cargo movement from the northeastern states to Bangladesh. Goods arriving from India at Chittagong and Mongla Port can be sent to Agartala via in Bangladesh, to Meghalaya via Sutarkandi in Asaam via Tripura via Comilla and vice versa said by SMP Deputy Chairman (Kolkata) Samrat Rahi. The SMP achieved a total cargo volume of 65.5 million metric tonnes in the financial year 2022-23 and has set a target of 70 million metric tonnes in 2023-24.

## **Global collaboration invited for India's maritime transformation**

Union Minister MoPSW Shri Sarbananda Sonowal extended a warm invitation to all Indian Ambassadors from the East and the West Zones to explore the investment opportunities in the domestic maritime sector to help accelerate the growth prospects of the Indian maritime industry. More than 45 Indian missions participated in the meeting, including those from the United States, United Kingdom, France, Canada, Singapore, Russia, United Arab Emirates, Australia, Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Denmark, Netherlands, and Brazil to name a few. Indian missions from Commonwealth of independent States, BIMSTEC, Middle East and the Gulf Countries were also present.



## **The most difficult week for the Baltic index in almost two months**

Lower rates for capesize and panamax vessels caused the main sea freight index of the Baltic Exchange to decline, capping off its worst week since early June. The entire index, which considers the rates for capesize, panamax, and supramax shipping vessels carrying dry bulk commodities, fell 30 points, or 2.7%, to 1,080. The main index experienced its largest weekly percentage loss since June 2 after declining 12.7% for the week. To reach 1,174, the capesize index fell 85 points or 6.8%. Its week-over-week decline was 26.5%.

## **Phase 2 of the BMCT at JN Port may see PSA collaborate with liner giant MSC**

Singapore's PSA International Pvt Ltd and Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) have started "preliminary talks" about forming a potential partnership that would provide MSC exclusive access to PSA's terminal at Jawaharlal Nehru Port in Mumbai. The negotiations may also look into the prospect of MSC picking a small part in Bharat Mumbai Container Terminals Pvt Ltd (BMCT), a facility that is entirely owned by PSA International and located at J N Port. The potential partnership with MSC will help BMCT garner the 50,000-60,000 TEUs a month.

## **Drewry: This Week's World Container Index Drops 3.5%**

Drewry WCI composite index is presently 83% lower at \$1,768.33 per 40-foot container than the peak of \$10,377 recorded in September 2021. As compared to the same week last year, the composite index has fallen by 70.5%, and decreased by 3.5%, to \$1,768.33 this week. It is 24% more than average 2019 (pre-pandemic) rates of \$1,420, but 34% less than the 10-year average of \$2,682, showing a return to more normal prices. Year-to-date, the composite index averages \$1,772 per 40-ft container, \$910 less than the 10-year average.

## **India, Greece joins hands to double bilateral trade by 2030**

During Hon'ble Prime Minister's Narendra Modi official visit to Greece, he said that "both the countries intend to increase their bilateral trade by 2030". In 2022-2023, the two countries' bilateral trade was around \$2 billion. A migration and mobility agreement will also be signed by both parties to enhance the movement of people and talent between the two nations. Additionally, the two nations decided to upgrade their bilateral relations to those of a "strategic partnership". For leader-level discussions, Prime Minister Modi also got together with Greece Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis.



## **Advancing India's Maritime Excellence: Global Maritime India Summit 2023**

The maritime sector holds an important role in shaping the economic growth and global trade landscape of any country. Realizing this, the India government, plans to host the third edition of the Global Maritime India Summit in October 2023 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. This event marks a significant milestone in India's journey towards bolstering its maritime capabilities, fostering international collaborations, and taking hold of new investment opportunities.

The curtain raiser event for the Global Maritime India Summit 2023 took place on July 18, 2023, in Mumbai, in the presence of the Union Minister MoPSW Shri Sarbananda Sonowal. Addressing the Curtain Raiser for the upcoming Global Maritime India Summit 2023 Union Minister MoPSW Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, emphasized on the vital role of the maritime sector in India's economic progression and the potential it holds for the Asia-Pacific region. “India can lead from the front”, he said, adding that India’s maritime sector is poised for growth, owing to proactive government policies around, ports, shipping and inland waterways. This curtain-raiser event served as a powerful overture, setting the tone for the upcoming summit by showcasing India's strengths and capabilities in the maritime sector. It offered a platform for prominent speakers from the maritime industry to share their insights, perspectives, and predictions that are set to shape the future of the maritime industry in India.

The development of a global marketplace that brings together important stakeholders such as business leaders, researchers, and shipping companies in the maritime sector is one of the primary objectives of the Global Maritime India Summit. This environment offers an advantageous setting to promote sharing of information, stimulating of investments and thereby deepen collaboration. To emphasize these points the Minister held an Ambassador's Meet on August 11, 2023. The meeting saw participation from more than 40 countries, including 21 Ambassadors, High Commissioners, Deputy High Commissioners, Trade Commissioners, and 23 other diplomats, underscoring the global interest in the upcoming Global Maritime India Summit 2023 (GMIS 2023) .

The summit will also serve as a platform for showcasing the latest technologies and emerging trends in the maritime domain. A fast-paced evolving landscape demands staying updated on technological advancements to maintain a competitive edge, which this Summit shall showcase. By spotlighting technological innovations, the summit is expected to spark the discussions on how these developments can be harnessed.

Another significant role of the Global Maritime India Summit is its focus on identifying and celebrating the stakeholders who have achieved some recognition in the maritime sector. This recognition not only honors those who have made noteworthy contributions but also inspires others to strive for excellence. The summit aims to act as a stage where people who have practical experiences in this sector can share their insights which can help in fostering the environment of learning and inspiration. Furthermore, the summit emphasizes the importance of industry-academia interaction in accessing skilled manpower. By facilitating this interaction, the event bridges the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical industry requirements. This collaboration ensures that the maritime sector benefits from a pool of talented individuals who are well-equipped to tackle the challenges of the industry.

The dedicated website for the Global Maritime India Summit plays a crucial role as the central hub for participants and stakeholders. It offers easy access to essential resources and updates, ensuring that all pertinent information is readily available to those involved in the summit. This digital platform enhances engagement and coordination among stakeholders, streamlining the overall event experience .

A noteworthy highlight of India's maritime sector is the government's endorsement of 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) through the automatic route. This policy reflects India's openness to foreign investments and underscores the nation's appeal as an attractive destination for maritime infrastructure projects. Union Minister MoPSW Shri Sarbananda Sonowal underlines how this policy showcases India's commitment to fostering global partnerships and bolstering its standing on the global maritime map. Opportunities span from cruise tourism to shipbuilding and maritime education, offering international partners a multifaceted spectrum of avenues for collaboration are also a prospect of the summit .

The minister also emphasized the pivotal role of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) to shape the sector's trajectory. The success of PPP terminals in managing a substantial portion of cargo flow at major ports underscores the efficacy of this collaborative approach. Through PPPs, the maritime sector not only enhances efficiency and capacity but also leverages private sector expertise and resources for the greater good.

In conclusion, the Global Maritime India Summit 2023 stands as a testament to India's unwavering commitment to advancing its maritime sector. Under the leadership of Union Minister MoPSW Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, the summit not only showcases India's strengths but also sets the stage for ground-breaking collaborations, technological advancements, and investment opportunities. As the maritime industry evolves, events like these play a critical role in ensuring that India remains at the forefront of maritime excellence.

***CMEC will be putting all the efforts to support the MoPSW in organizing Global India Maritime Summit 2023 .***