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CMEC
Centre for Maritime Economy and Connectivity
समुद्री अर्थव्यवस्था व संयोजन केंद्र

MARITIME BRIEFING

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From the Editorial Desk

The Centre for Maritime Economy & Connectivity (CMEC), established by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPS&W) at the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, is pleased to present the June 2026 issue of the *Maritime Briefing*. This edition covers key developments across Maritime Technology, Maritime Economy, Maritime Sustainability, International Maritime Collaboration, and Blue Economy initiatives during the period May - Jun 2026.

This edition presents a comprehensive overview of the latest developments shaping India's maritime sector. It features significant milestones in indigenous maritime technology, port modernization, logistics infrastructure, and shipbuilding, alongside major policy initiatives aimed at enhancing maritime competitiveness and investment. The edition also highlights India's emergence as a global leader in sustainable ship recycling, advances in green shipping technologies, expanding international maritime partnerships, and growing Blue Economy initiatives. Together, these developments reinforce India's vision of building a technologically advanced, sustainable, and globally integrated maritime ecosystem.

MARITIME TECHNOLOGY

GRSE Delivers Three Advanced Indigenous Warships in Landmark Naval Technology Milestone

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi commissioned three warships - INS Dunagiri, INS Sanshodhak, and INS Agray built by GRSE into the Indian Navy at Kolkata on 21 June 2026, adding another milestone to the shipyard's legacy. These "triplet" vessels enhance the Navy's operational reach in surveillance, escort and maritime security tasks, and feature modern sensors, weapons and integrated platform management systems. Their commissioning underlines India's growing self-reliance in sophisticated surface-combatant construction. The event also reflects the Navy's continued fleet modernisation and the maturing of design, production and project-management capabilities at Indian yards. Together, the three ships will strengthen maritime deterrence in the wider Indian Ocean Region (IOR)…read more

India's First Indigenous Hovercraft Delivered to Coast Guard

Chowgule Shipyard has delivered India's first indigenously built hovercraft to the Indian Coast Guard under a contract for six craft. The air cushion vehicle (ACV) is designed for search and rescue, coastal surveillance, interdiction and disaster response in shallow-water and marshy areas where conventional boats cannot operate. Its successful delivery represents a significant boost for niche shipbuilding capabilities. The hovercraft is designed to carry a payload of 8 tonnes or accommodate up to 42 personnel. It has a maximum speed of 45 knots, a cruising speed of 35 knots, and an operational endurance of up to 9 hours. The project supports the Aatmanirbhar Bharat vision by localising design, construction and lifecycle support for specialised platforms…read more

APSEZ–Kaleris AI-Led Port and Logistics Transformation

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd. (APSEZ) has expanded its strategic partnership with Kaleris to accelerate digital transformation across its ports and logistics network as part of its 2030 growth strategy. Under the multi-year agreement, Kaleris will deploy its N4 Terminal Operating System and AI-enabled optimisation solutions across 15 container terminals at nine domestic and international ports, building on earlier deployments at six ports. The initiative supports APSEZ's broader USD 850 million investment in decarbonisation and technology, alongside its target of achieving one billion tonnes of annual cargo handling capacity by 2030. The deployment is expected to improve RTG crane productivity by up to 20% and terminal truck productivity by up to 14%, while enhancing yard utilisation, vessel turnaround, planning accuracy and end-to-end cargo visibility through AI, IoT and advanced optimisation technologies….read more

WinGD Achieves Ammonia-Fuelled X72DF-A Engine Milestone

Swiss marine engine developer WinGD has successfully completed the Factory Acceptance Test (FAT) of its X72DF-A ammonia-fuelled dual-fuel engine in China, marking a significant milestone in the decarbonisation of shipping. The engine, certified in the presence of Lloyd's Register, ABS and CCS, will power the first of ten 210,000 dwt bulk carriers being built for CMB.TECH. Developed over four years, the X72DF-A uses high-pressure ammonia injection with minimal pilot fuel, achieving over 90% lower greenhouse gas emissions in ammonia mode compared to diesel while maintaining comparable performance and efficiency. WinGD has already secured orders for 40 X-DF-A engines, reflecting growing industry confidence in ammonia as a viable low-carbon marine fuel for large commercial vessels…read more

CMA CGM Notre Dame – World's Largest LNG vessel

CMA CGM has deployed the CMA CGM Notre Dame, the world's largest LNG-powered container ship, on its maiden voyage from Shanghai Yangshan Port to Europe, marking a major milestone in sustainable maritime transport. With a capacity of 24,212 TEU, the 400-metre-long vessel is powered by a dual-fuel LNG propulsion system that reduces CO_2 emissions by 20%, cuts nitrogen oxide emissions by up to 85%, and virtually eliminates sulphur oxide and particulate matter emissions compared to conventional fuel-powered ships. Equipped with an 18,600-cubic-metre LNG tank, the vessel can sail nearly 20,000 nautical miles on a single bunkering. It is the first of ten similar vessels to be delivered between 2026 and 2028, reinforcing CMA CGM's commitment to low-carbon shipping and greener global trade….read more

SDHI-DNV Partnership to Drive Maritime Technology and Shipbuilding

Swan Defence and Heavy Industries Ltd. (SDHI) has entered into a strategic partnership with DNV to enhance India's shipbuilding capabilities and strengthen its maritime ecosystem. The collaboration will focus on ship classification standards, maritime technology integration, green shipping solutions, and the adoption of international best practices for commercial and defence shipbuilding. Aligned with Maritime India Vision 2030 and Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047, the partnership supports India's ambition to become one of the world's top five shipbuilding nations by 2047. By leveraging DNV's global expertise in classification and safety standards, the initiative is expected to improve international competitiveness, attract export orders and foreign investment, and reinforce India's efforts to build a globally recognised and sustainable shipbuilding industry…read more

Adani Krishnapatnam Executes Double-Banking Operation

Adani Krishnapatnam Port Limited (AKPL), a flagship APSEZ asset, has successfully executed a specialised double-banking operation involving MT AU Libra berthing alongside MT Spica, with both vessels simultaneously discharging edible oil cargo. This complex manoeuvre required precise mooring, tug support and coordination with safety authorities. Double-banking enables higher berth productivity and reduced port stay for vessels, supporting better asset utilisation. The achievement showcases Krishnapatnam's marine and operational expertise and positions it as a capable deep-draft port for specialised bulk and liquid operations on India's east coast….read more

MARITIME ECONOMY

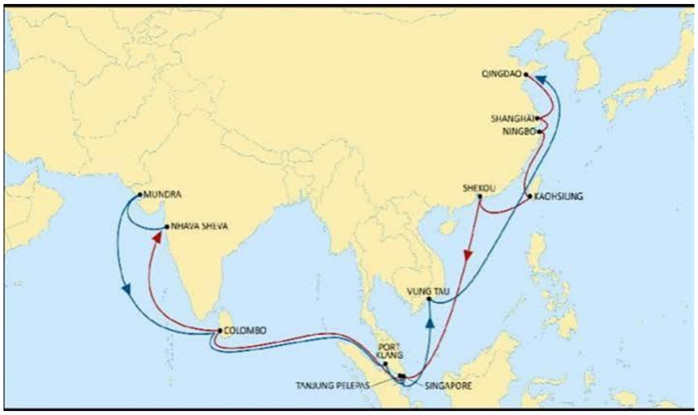
GRSE Accorded Navratna Status

Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd. (GRSE) has been granted Navratna PSU status by the Department of Public Enterprises, Ministry of Finance. The upgrade recognises GRSE's strong financial and operational performance and its track record in building complex warships for the Indian Navy and Coast Guard. GRSE revenue from operations has grown from Rs. 1,754 Cr in the FY 2021-22 to Rs. 7,002 Cr in FY 2025-26. Navratna status gives the shipyard enhanced autonomy for capital expenditure, joint ventures and overseas projects, enabling it to compete more effectively in global tenders. GRSE is expected to leverage this flexibility to expand its defence and commercial orderbook, deepen export activity and invest in modern infrastructure and R&D aligned with "Make in India, Make for the World"…read more

Centre Plans New International Land Ports in West Bengal

The Centre plans to develop seven to eight new international land ports in West Bengal along the borders with Bangladesh and Nepal to strengthen cross-border trade and passenger connectivity. The projects, to be implemented by the Land Ports Authority of India under the Ministry of Home Affairs, will complement the existing Petrapole land port. Proposed locations include Panitanki, Ghojadanga, Hili and Birpara. Each facility is expected to be developed on around 50 acres of land with integrated border infrastructure to improve customs clearance, cargo handling and vehicle movement. The initiative forms part of a broader national strategy to modernise border trade infrastructure, reduce congestion at existing crossings and enhance regional supply chain efficiency by unlocking greater trade potential with neighbouring countries….read more

Carriers Deepen Asia–India Connectivity with New and Revived Services



Container lines are significantly scaling up direct connectivity between East/Southeast Asia and the Indian subcontinent through a cluster of new and reinstated services. TS Lines has launched its China–West India Express 2 (CWX2), a fixed-day weekly loop on a 42-day rotation linking Shanghai, Ningbo, Shekou and Port Klang with Nhava Sheva, Hazira and Mundra, reducing reliance on transhipment hubs. OOCL's new Southeast Asia–Indian Subcontinent Service 2 (SIS2) connects Qinzhou, Yangpu, Haiphong and Singapore directly to Mundra, enhancing coverage between China, Vietnam, Singapore and India's west coast. Maersk's FI2 service links Shanghai, Ningbo, Nansha and Tanjung Pelepas to Nhava Sheva and Pipavav, using Dedicated Freight Corridor rail connectivity from Pipavav to the National Capital Region to offer integrated, time-sensitive logistics for automotive, chemical, technology and retail cargo. COSCO SHIPPING has reinstated its SKX1 shuttle between Singapore and Kolkata to strengthen eastern India's ties with Southeast Asia and improve feeder access for Bangladesh and the Northeast. In parallel, Ningbo Ocean Shipping has launched its first liner call at Nhava Sheva, adding competitive capacity on China–West India routes and underscoring India's growing centrality in intra-Asia container networks.

India's Port Expansion Gathers Pace: JSW Kolkata Terminal and Vadhvan Breakwater

India's port infrastructure drive has gained fresh momentum with two major private sector wins in Kolkata and along the Maharashtra coast. JSW Infrastructure has secured a 30-year PPP concession from Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Authority to develop the Outer Container Terminal at the Kolkata Dock System, adding about 0.93-1.0 million TEUs of capacity through two new berths and associated facilities at Netaji Subhash Dock….read more. On the west coast, Afcons Infrastructure has been awarded a ₹5,301 crore contract by Vadhvan Port Project Limited to construct a 10.14-km breakwater, set to be the world's second-longest and forming the backbone of the upcoming deep-draft Vadhvan Port, envisioned as a major container and multi-cargo hub….read more

VLCC Orderbook Reaches Historic Levels

The VLCC market is undergoing a major ordering upcycle, with 262 VLCCs currently on order, equivalent to about 30 per cent of the existing fleet. Contracting in 2026 alone has reached around 127 vessels, reportedly the highest annual tally since 1973. Second-hand values have surged, with 10-year-old VLCCs changing hands at nearly USD 115 million, levels last seen during the 2008 boom. Strong earnings, fleet renewal and changing trade patterns are driving orders, but analysts caution that the large orderbook could trigger oversupply and rate volatility when deliveries peak. Environmental regulations and fuel-choice decisions will further shape the fleet's long-term economics….read more

India Launches Logistics Port Performance Index to Boost Port Competitiveness

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal launched the Logistics Port Performance Index (LPPI) for FY 2024-25 and four digital initiatives during the 37th Foundation Day celebrations of Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) in Mumbai. Developed under the Sagar Aankalan framework, the LPPI benchmarks the operational performance of Indian ports across dry bulk, liquid bulk and container cargo using key efficiency indicators. The Minister also unveiled a 24x7 grievance redressal module on e-Navik, a ship registration module on e-Samudra, a medical practitioner module. The event also witnessed a launch of unified ship recycling credit note portal, for the ship recycling credit scheme, offering credit notes equivalent to 40% of a vessel's scrap value for recycling at Hong Kong Convention-compliant Indian yards….read more

KGPL-Sravan Shipping signs MoU for Liquid Storage Tank Farm at Kakinada

Kakinada Gateway Port Limited (KGPL), a subsidiary of the Auro Group, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sravan Shipping Services Pvt. Ltd. to develop a liquid storage tank farm facility at Kakinada Port. The proposed project includes the development of multiple storage tank farms with an estimated cargo handling capacity of around 1 million tonnes per annum (MTPA), supported by a dedicated liquid berth with a draft of 14-18 metres. The collaboration aims to strengthen liquid cargo infrastructure for chemicals, solvents, petrochemical products and allied commodities, while enhancing supply chain efficiency, attracting industrial investment and generating employment. The initiative reinforces Kakinada's emergence as a strategic maritime and industrial hub on India's east coast and supports the development of an integrated port ecosystem….read more

Godam Logistics Park Boosts Nagpur's Logistics Hub Role

The Godam Logistics Park has been inaugurated at Nagpur, reinforcing the city's emergence as a major logistics and warehousing hub in central India. Inaugurated by Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, the integrated logistics facility is expected to strengthen supply chain efficiency and attract further investments to the region. Highlighting Nagpur's strategic location at the country's "Zero Mile", Gadkari said the city is well positioned to become a national logistics centre. Fadnavis noted that Nagpur would require at least 20 more large logistics parks to meet rising demand and cited the state's new logistics policy aligned with the PM Gati Shakti initiative. The project is expected to boost industrial growth, reduce logistics costs and enhance multimodal connectivity….read more

Non-Major Ports Lag Major Ports in Cargo Growth

Ports outside Union Government control handled around 753 million tonnes of cargo, growing only about 1.4% year-on-year, significantly slower than major ports, which expanded by roughly 7%. The divergence highlights the need for capacity upgrades, governance reforms and better last-mile connectivity at many state-controlled and private ports. Several maritime states are reviewing tariff frameworks, concession models and PPP structures to reinvigorate investment. Addressing these issues will be crucial for meeting national port capacity targets and balancing cargo between major and non-major ports under Maritime India Vision 2030 and logistics cost reduction strategies….read more

DP World Acquires 49% Stake in Reliance's Mappedu Logistics Park

DP World has acquired a 49% stake in the Mappedu Multi-Modal Logistics Park (MMLP), developed by Reliance near Chennai, strengthening its presence in India's logistics and supply chain sector. The partnership combines DP World's global expertise in port and terminal operations with Reliance's domestic infrastructure and distribution capabilities to enhance multimodal cargo handling and logistics services. Located near Chennai, a key gateway for India's southern industrial corridor, the logistics park is expected to improve container throughput, reduce congestion and shorten cargo dwell times. The investment reflects growing international confidence in India's logistics infrastructure and is expected to support efficient export-import operations, strengthen supply chain resilience and enhance multimodal connectivity for industries across the region….read more

India's P&I Entry Plan Faces Pushback from Shipowners

The Government is exploring entry into the marine Protection and Indemnity (P&I) insurance segment through either a Bharat Maritime Insurance Pool or an Indian P&I Club with regulatory backing. The Indian National Shipowners' Association (INSA) has strongly opposed the proposals, arguing they could raise costs, fragment risk pools and complicate reinsurance compared with established international clubs. Proponents argue that a domestic mechanism could enhance strategic autonomy and mitigate sanctions risks. The debate will have significant implications for how liability, environmental and third-party risks are managed for Indian-flag vessels and for the country's integration with global maritime insurance markets….read more

DPIIT Launches 'BHAVYA' Scheme to Develop 100 Industrial Parks

The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has outlined the framework of the Bharat Audyogik Vikas Yojana (BHAVYA), a flagship initiative with a budgetary outlay of ₹33,660 crore to strengthen India's manufacturing ecosystem. The scheme aims to develop 100 plug-and-play industrial parks over the next six years, with applications for the first phase of 50 parks open until 31 July 2026. Designed to attract both public and private investment, BHAVYA provides financial assistance for industrial parks developed on government and private land. The initiative also prioritises Tier-2 and Tier-3 cities, supports the revival of underutilised industrial parks, and promotes modern, future-ready industrial infrastructure….read more

Gujarat Announces ₹50 Crore Shipbuilding Subsidy to Boost Maritime Sector

The Government of Gujarat has announced a shipbuilding subsidy of up to ₹50 crore for shipyards to promote domestic vessel construction and strengthen the state's maritime ecosystem. Under the scheme, shipyards can receive financial assistance of 8% of eligible project costs or ₹50 crore, whichever is lower, for constructing small and large vessels. The initiative supports investments in shipyard infrastructure, including slipways, jetties, cranes, fabrication facilities and dredging, while also encouraging training and R&D. Complementing the Centre's ₹69,725 crore Shipbuilding Package and the extended Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Scheme, the policy aims to attract investment, support MSMEs and reinforce Gujarat's position as a leading shipbuilding and ship repair hub….read more

SBI Ventures Selected to Manage ₹20,000 Crore Maritime Investment Fund

The Government of India has appointed SBI Ventures as the fund manager for the ₹20,000 crore Maritime Investment Fund (MIF), following a competitive bidding process. As fund manager, SBI Ventures will oversee fundraising, investment management and portfolio operations. The MIF forms part of the ₹25,000 crore Maritime Development Fund (MDF) approved by the Union Cabinet to provide long-term capital for the maritime sector. Structured as a Category I or II Alternative Investment Fund (AIF), the fund will receive 49% government equity support, with the remaining **51%** mobilised from private and institutional investors. A blended finance model and feeder funds in GIFT City are also proposed to attract global investment….read more

MARITIME SUSTAINABILITY

India Becomes World’s Leading Ship Recycling Nation

India has emerged as the world’s top ship-recycling nation in 2025, with its global share rising to 35.4 per cent from 30.1 per cent in 2024, according to UNCTAD. Recycling volumes increased to 2.99 million gross tons (GT) from 1.86 million GT, a jump of nearly 60 per cent. Upgraded, Hong Kong Convention aligned yards at Alang and other locations have helped attract more end-of-life ships. This performance means the Maritime India Vision 2030 target of becoming the leading recycling nation has been achieved ahead of schedule. It also reinforces India’s role in the circular maritime economy and in supplying steel scrap to domestic industries….read more

VOC Port Advances Green Maritime Hub Vision with New Sustainability Partnerships

V.O. Chidambaranar (VOC) Port Authority, Thoothukudi, has strengthened its green transition through a series of strategic partnerships and renewable energy initiatives aimed at achieving net-zero emissions by 2026. The port signed an MoU with AM Green Ammonia (India) Pvt. Ltd. to establish a 1 MTPA green ammonia production facility with bunkering and storage infrastructure. It also partnered with Bureau Veritas (India) Pvt. Ltd. to support Green Port certification, ESG reporting and the establishment of a Centre of Excellence for green fuels. Ongoing projects include a pilot green hydrogen plant, a 9 MW wind power project, a green methanol bunkering facility and a Digital Twin platform, reinforcing VOC Port's position as a leading green maritime hub….read more

First Ship Recycling Credit Note Issued to Bella Shipping

The Government of India has granted the first Ship Recycling Credit Note to Liberia's Bella Shipping LLC for scrapping a Nevis flagged Capesize bulk carrier named 'Kosta' at an Indian yard in Alang in Gujarat. Under the scheme, shipowners recycling vessels in compliant Indian facilities receive a credit note worth 40 per cent of the scrap value, redeemable against up to 5 per cent of the price of a new vessel built in India. The credit note has been issued for a value of Rs 29.81with a validity period till 28th May 2029. The credit notes can be stacked and traded, linking ship recycling with domestic shipbuilding in a circular-economy model. The issuance to Bella Shipping is expected to catalyse more green recycling and drive orders to Indian yards over time….[read more]

Battery-Hybrid 16,000-TEU Container Ship Concept Completed

American Bureau of Shipping (ABS), HD Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering (HD KSOE) and HD Hyundai Heavy Industries (HD HHI) have completed a joint development project for a 16,000 TEU ultra large container ship featuring a battery hybrid propulsion system. During Posidonia 2026, ABS awarded Approval in Principle (AiP) for the vessel's electrical analysis and design after completing class-based design reviews. The project builds on an earlier AiP granted in 2025 for electric propulsion systems and represents a significant step towards integrating hybrid technologies into large commercial vessels. The battery-assisted design aims to enhance energy efficiency, reduce emissions and support the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) 2050 net-zero emissions target, reinforcing industry efforts to accelerate the adoption of sustainable and high-efficiency maritime technologies.….[read more]

Prince Madog Hydrogen Fuel Cell Retrofit Wins LR Certification

The UK-flagged research vessel Prince Madog has become the first sea-going, manned vessel of its kind to receive Lloyd's Register (LR) certification for a hydrogen fuel cell retrofit under the ShipRight Risk-Based Certification (RBC) framework. The retrofit integrates a gaseous hydrogen storage system, fuel cell, battery and supporting systems, developed by O.S. Energy in collaboration with Ecomar Propulsion. The project demonstrates the safe integration of hydrogen propulsion technologies beyond existing regulatory frameworks. Once completed, the retrofit will enable zero-emission operations and provide a scalable pathway for adopting hydrogen-powered propulsion in workboats and larger commercial vessels, supporting the maritime industry's transition towards net-zero emissions by 2050….read more

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME COLLABORATION

India and Italy Expand Maritime Cooperation under Special Strategic Partnership

During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Italy, India and Italy elevated their bilateral ties to a Special Strategic Partnership and reaffirmed cooperation across multiple sectors, including maritime. The two leaders welcomed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation for the development of the National Maritime Heritage Complex at Lothal, Gujarat, aimed at strengthening collaboration in maritime heritage. They also expressed satisfaction with the deepening of defence cooperation through exchange of port visits and regular engagement between the defence forces. Additionally, both sides reaffirmed their commitment to advancing the India–Middle East–Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) through the development of connectivity infrastructure and concrete collaborative projects….read more

India and Seychelles Sign MoU on Recognition of Seafarers' Certification

India and Seychelles signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the Recognition of Training and Certification of Seafarers during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Seychelles. The agreement, signed between the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways of India and the Ministry of Transport, Ports and Civil Aviation of Seychelles, facilitates the mutual recognition of Indian seafarers' training and certification for service on Seychelles-flagged vessels. The MoU is expected to enhance employment opportunities for Indian seafarers, strengthen bilateral maritime cooperation and support greater mobility of qualified maritime professionals while reinforcing collaboration between the two countries in the shipping sector….read more

India and Nordic Countries Deepen Maritime Cooperation at 3rd India-Nordic Summit

At the 3rd India–Nordic Summit, India and the Nordic countries agreed to strengthen cooperation in the maritime sector as part of their newly established Green Technology and Innovation Strategic Partnership. Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for greater Nordic investment in the blue economy, shipbuilding and green shipping. The leaders also discussed climate action, renewable energy and technology collaboration to support sustainable growth. In addition, they agreed to explore joint research projects in the Arctic, with a focus on scientific cooperation, sustainable Arctic economy, maritime cooperation and indigenous knowledge exchange, while acknowledging India's constructive engagement as an observer in the Arctic Council. The leaders reaffirmed their commitment to expanding India–Nordic cooperation across these priority areas….read more

Quad Launches Maritime Security and Fiji Port Infrastructure Initiatives

The Quad nations (India, the United States, Australia and Japan) have announced new initiatives to strengthen maritime security and infrastructure development in the Indo-Pacific. The grouping will integrate its maritime surveillance capabilities to enhance information sharing and provide partner countries with access to advanced maritime domain awareness technologies. In a significant infrastructure initiative, the Quad will jointly upgrade port infrastructure in Fiji, marking its first collaborative regional port project and reinforcing support for resilient connectivity in the Pacific. The ministers also launched an Indo-Pacific Energy Security initiative and a Critical Minerals framework. The announcements reaffirm the Quad's commitment to promoting a free, open and stable Indo-Pacific amid evolving regional geopolitical and maritime security challenges….read more

India and UAE Sign Maritime MoUs to Strengthen Ship Repair and Maritime Skills

During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the UAE, India and the UAE signed two key maritime Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) to strengthen ship repair capabilities and maritime skill development. Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) and Drydocks World (DDW) signed an MoU to develop a Ship Repair Cluster at Vadinar, Gujarat, aimed at enhancing ship repair infrastructure, maritime logistics and indigenous capabilities under the Make in India initiative. A second MoU between CSL, DDW and the Centre of Excellence in Maritime & Shipbuilding (CEMS) focuses on specialised training, technical upskilling and capacity building in ship repair. Together, the agreements seek to strengthen India's maritime ecosystem and build a globally competitive maritime workforce….read more

India and Japan Sign Maritime Research MoU to Strengthen Port and Logistics Cooperation

The Indian Ports Association (IPA), Centre for Maritime Economy and Connectivity (CMEC), and the Japan Transport and Tourism Research Institute (JTTRI) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen cooperation in ports, maritime economy, logistics, transport connectivity and sustainable maritime development. The partnership will promote joint research, academic exchanges and knowledge sharing between India and Japan while supporting collaborative studies, policy dialogue, capacity building and the exchange of best practices in port management, maritime trade, infrastructure development and multimodal transport connectivity. The MoU also seeks to advance innovation, strengthen technical expertise and support evidence-based policymaking, contributing to resilient maritime and logistics networks and deeper India–Japan maritime cooperation….read more

BLUE ECONOMY

Sagarmala Finance Corporation to Launch India's First Blue Bond

Sagarmala Finance Corporation (SFC), the maritime financing arm under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, is preparing to issue India's first Blue Bond**,** marking a significant milestone in the country's sustainable finance landscape. The proposed issuance, expected to raise up to ₹1,000 crore, aims to mobilize long-term capital for environmentally sustainable maritime and coastal infrastructure projects, including ports, inland waterways, shipbuilding, and last-mile connectivity. The initiative is intended to diversify SFC's funding sources while addressing the mismatch between its short-term borrowings and long-term infrastructure lending. The Blue Bond is expected to attract ESG-focused investors and strengthen financing for projects supporting India's Blue Economy and Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047….read more

India and Norway Strengthen Blue Economy Cooperation

India and Norway reaffirmed their commitment to expanding cooperation in the Blue Economy during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Norway in May 2026. Under the Green Strategic Partnership, both countries agreed to deepen collaboration in sustainable shipping, green maritime technologies, marine ecosystem conservation, fisheries and aquaculture, offshore industries, ocean research, maritime education, and seafarer training. The partnership seeks to combine Norway's global expertise in sustainable maritime development with India's rapidly expanding maritime sector to promote innovation, investment, and capacity building. The leaders also emphasized enhancing cooperation in clean energy transition and resilient maritime infrastructure, reinforcing the Blue Economy as a key pillar of bilateral relations and sustainable economic growth….read more

Tamil Nadu Strengthens India's Blue Economy Through Seafood Exports

Tamil Nadu continues to emerge as a major contributor to India's Blue Economy by strengthening its marine fisheries and seafood export sector. During FY 2025–26, Chennai Port handled approximately 110,967 tonnes of seafood exports valued at nearly USD 620 million**,** accounting for more than seven per cent of India's total marine exports. The state's extensive coastline, well-developed fishing harbours, seafood processing facilities, and export infrastructure have positioned it as a leading hub for marine-based economic activities. The continued growth in seafood exports reflects increasing global demand for Indian marine products while supporting coastal livelihoods, employment generation, value-added processing, and sustainable utilization of marine resources under India's broader Blue Economy vision….read more

KUFOS Unveils Vision to Become a Global Blue Economy University by 2040

The Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (KUFOS) has unveiled its KUFOS@2040 Institutional Development Plan**,** outlining an ambitious roadmap to become a globally recognized centre of excellence in fisheries, ocean sciences, marine technology, and the Blue Economy. Aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the vision focuses on strengthening multidisciplinary education, cutting-edge research, innovation, entrepreneurship, and industry partnerships while promoting sustainable coastal development and marine resource management. The university also aims to enhance skill development, international collaboration, and technology transfer to support India's long-term Blue Economy objectives. The initiative is expected to contribute significantly to capacity building and evidence-based policymaking in the maritime sector….read more

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