



Guiding Spirit to Shipping Industry

# Sagar Sandesh

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MSC and Maersk alliance to end 2025; MSC...

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Haryana to Get Three Multi Modal Logistics Parks

## Inauguration of "AMET Knowledge Park" and opening of "Maersk Centre of Excellence" near Chennai



Mrs. Susheela Ramachandran, Managing Trustee of AMET inaugurated the AMET Knowledge Park

AMET is making significant strides towards becoming a Multi-disciplinary University, marked by the establishment of a new 150-acre campus called 'AMET Knowledge Park.' Located along the East Coast Road in Thenpattinam, Chengalpattu District, this campus is poised to house a wide range of academic, research, training, and outreach programs spanning multiple domains such as Maritime, Information Technology, Medical, Law, Life Sciences,

and Agriculture. Mrs. Susheela Ramachandran, Managing Trustee of AMET inaugurated the AMET Knowledge Park on 29th June 2023.

One remarkable addition to the AMET Knowledge Park is the establishment of the first 'Maersk Centre of Excellence (MCE),' an industry-academia collaboration between A.P. Moller - Maersk, Denmark and AMET University. The centre aims to provide high-quality maritime education to Indian maritime cadets. The MCE was inaugurated by Mr Niels H Bruus, Vice President-Head of Marine People and Culture, A.P. Moller - Maersk. The selection of Indian cadets for training at the MCE is carried out through a joint admission drive conducted by AMET and A.P. Moller - Maersk.

During the inauguration, the Hostel block was officially opened by Mrs K. Indubala, Project Director DRDA and representative of the District

Collector, Chengalpattu District, while the Canteen block was inaugurated by Capt Karan Kochhar, Director, Head of Marine People Asia, Maersk Fleet Management and Technology (I) Pvt Ltd, Mumbai. The MCE encompasses an Academic block,

Hostel block, Canteen, Parade ground, Playground, and Cafeteria with state-of-the-art facilities and Laboratories equipped with the latest technology for all subjects.

The inaugural function, presided over by Dr J. Ramachandran, Founder and Chancellor of the University, commenced with a welcome address delivered by Dr Rajesh Ramachandran, the Pro-Chancellor of the University.

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Mr. Niels H Bruus, Vice President-Head of Marine People and Culture, A.P. Moller - Maersk unveiled the Maersk Centre of Excellence at AMET Knowledge Park, Thenpattinam on 29.06.2023 along with Founder and Chancellor, AMET University Dr. J. Ramachandran, Mrs. K. Indubala, Project Director DRDA, Chengalpattu District, Pro Chancellor Dr. Rajesh Ramachandran, AMET Managing Trustee Mrs. Susheela Ramachandran, Pro Chancellor Academics Col. Dr. G. Thiruvassagam, Mr. Karan Kochhar, Director, Head of Marine People, Asia, Maersk Fleet Management and Technology (I) Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai, AMET Vice President Dr. Deepa Rajesh, AMET South East Asia Director Capt. Francis Joseph, Vice Chancellor Dr. V. Rajendran, Additional Registrar Dr. V. Sangeetha Albin, Mr. Arvind Shankar, Culture & Capability Manager, A.P. Moller - Maersk.



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## Inauguration of "AMET Knowledge Park" .....From Page : 1

In his welcome address, Dr Rajesh Ramachandran welcomed all the dignitaries and the audience. He highlighted that setting up the new campus was a bold step. This Maersk Centre of Excellence would be a hub for innovation and training. He also stated that this initiative would be transformative.

**Dr. J. Ramachandran** in his Presidential address appreciated his life partner **Mrs. Susheela Ramachandran** who had always been a source of strength and a pillar of support in his tumultuous journey. He went on to mention that it was his goodwill with **Mr Niels Bruus** that sowed the seed in Copenhagen for the establishment of the MCE. He also recalled his triumphant journey towards establishing AMET and the present new Campus at Thenpattinam. He assured the audience that this

innovative initiative will certainly be a remarkable renaissance in blossoming the life of Indian Youth.

In her Guest of Honour address, **Mrs K. Indubala** said that she was very delighted and pleased with MCE being the first of its kind in India and that this would create an intellectual awakening among the economically weak rural students. She also emphasised that she looked forward to employment being generated as a result of this noble initiative.

**Mr. Niels H Bruus** in his address stated that it is a great honour to be a part of the official inauguration of MCE. The Centre is a result of a unique collaboration between Maersk and AMET - an esteemed academic partner, and a fulfilment of the vision of Dr Ramachandran presented to him at Copenhagen in 2019. He also thanked Dr

Ramachandran and his team for their dedication to fulfilling the vision. Furthermore, he said that a vision without action was merely a dream, and today a dream coming true was witnessed, thanks to the dedicated action of Dr Ramachandran and his team.

**Mr. Niels Bruus** went on to say that Maersk's partnership with AMET University which began with their first recruitment drive in 1996 has stood the test of time and is a testament to the exceptional quality of education provided. The rich history shared with India and the strong partnership with AMET University have laid a solid foundation for the establishment of the MCE. In an industry driven by technological advancements, staying updated is crucial. The Maersk Centre of

Excellence recognizes this imperative and is dedicated to regularly connecting cadets and teachers with Maersk leadership teams across the organization. These connections will keep them abreast of emerging technologies and ensure that their training aligns with the latest advancements in technology and the rapidly evolving maritime landscape. Furthermore, it will ensure that the distinctive Maersk culture is instilled in the cadets throughout their education.

The MCE is built upon the pillars of equal opportunity and respect and firmly believes in creating a diverse, equitable, and inclusive learning space for the students, fostering a diversity of thought, and providing a nurturing environment that upholds respect, fairness, and a strong sense of belonging for all.

**Capt. Karan Kochhar** in his address emphasised - "With a commitment

to diversity, respect and capability building the Maersk Centre of Excellence will aim to create an equitable and psychologically safe learning environment for cadets, our future leaders of tomorrow."

These statements from Niels H Bruus and Capt. Karan Kochhar highlights the shared vision and aspirations of the MCE and its commitment to developing skilled and principled professionals who will contribute to the maritime industry's growth and progress. The focus is not only on providing education and training but also on fostering an inclusive environment where cadets can thrive and develop their skills.

The Vote of Thanks was given by **Mr Arvind Shankar, Culture & Capability Manager, A.P. Moller - Maersk**, expressing gratitude to all attendees.

## Maersk hosts Equal At Sea 2023..... From Page : 2

**Ajithkumar Sukumaran, the Chief Guest** at the event, during his address, spoke about the challenges that are being addressed

with initiatives like Equal At Sea. He emphasised the policies introduced, which facilitated a noticeable increase in women's

participation and success in seafaring in recent years.

At this year's event, Maersk addressed concerns around safety and well-being at sea. Experts like **Sanjam Sahi Gupta** - Director, Sitara Shipping and Founder at Maritime SheEO, **Divya Nair** - Clinical Psychologist with Maersk Fleet Management India and **Amalie Grevsen**, Marine Culture Lead, Maersk, emphasised the significance of safety, well-being, and preparedness in the maritime environment, with the goal of creating a safer and healthier ecosystem. **Cadet Garima D**, AMET

University, Chennai, **Capt. (Dr.) Ashutosh Apandkar**, Principal, Training Ship Rahaman, India, and **Capt Arvind Shankar**, Cadet Culture and Capability Manager, Maersk, discussed the role of maritime institutes and access to mentorship in shaping seafarers for inclusive and successful careers at sea.

When we launched Equal At Sea last year, our ambition was to inspire a positive change in a sector dominated by a mindset that doesn't support gender equality. We are happy to see that at the second iteration of this event, there are more and more stakeholders agreeing with our goal and willingly contributing towards it. At Maersk, we have carefully designed initiatives to transform seafaring into a safe and aspiring career, encouraging young women to aim for their future at sea. **Maersk's global women seafarer count has grown from 2% in 2021 to 3.3% in 2023, and we are committed to facilitating**

a further increase in women seafarers worldwide. In our quest for equality, we are committed to playing an active role by sharing our learnings, training material, and other valuable content with individuals, organisations, and institutions who share our vision, Niels Bruus, Head of Marine People & Culture, Maersk said.

In a session with **HK Joshi** - Former Chairperson, MD and Director (Finance) with Shipping Corporation of India Ltd., **Dr. Harpreet Singh** - Executive Director - Headquarters with Air India Ltd., **Niels Bruus**, and **Shalini Nataraj** - Employee Experience Officer with Maersk discussed the way forward for the shipping industry in making life on board more inclusive for women. The topics they discussed ranged from building awareness about the career path, setting in place the necessary infrastructure, and creating opportunities, to ensure that women are able to thrive in their careers.





**Sagar Sandesh**  
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**Mumbai Office**  
217, Secands Road, Unique Industrial Estate, off Veer Savarkar Marg,  
Bombay Dyeing Compound, Prabhadevi, Mumbai - 400025  
Ph: 022 - 24211583 / 24210193. Fax: 022 - 2421 2149

**Chennai Office**  
No.6, Nungambakkam First Lane (Opp. Regional Office, Indian Oil  
Corporation), Nungambakkam High Road, Chennai - 600 034  
Ph: 044-42664408

**Admin. Office**  
21 "LAKSHMI", Sathya Sai Nagar, Madurai-625 003. Ph : 0452 437 8300 / +91 72000 84864

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