



Sagar Sandesh

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India's first International Maritime Services Cluster at GIFT City



Gift City View

Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB) will be setting up India's first international maritime services cluster at GIFT City. The Maritime Cluster will be developed as a dedicated ecosystem comprising of Ports, Shipping, Logistics services providers and pertinent Government Regulators, all present in the same geographic vicinity (i.e. GIFT City). The cluster will further leverage the proximity and accessibility of these stakeholders to enable a synergetic collaboration.

Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) is a business district near Ahmedabad. It is India's first operational greenfield smart city and international financial services Centre, which the Government of Gujarat promoted as a greenfield project. The city is located on the banks of the Sabarmati River and is around 12 km from Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport. The city is designed so residents can walk to work, and includes commercial and residential complexes. First of its kind in India, designed to be at or above par with globally benchmarked financial centers such as Shinjuku, Tokyo, Lujiazui, Shanghai, La Defense, Paris, London Dockyards...

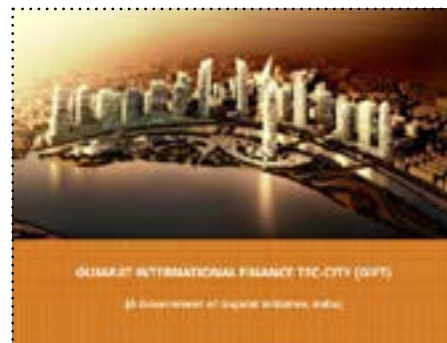


Shri Tapan Ray, MD & Group CEO, GIFT City

Welcoming the new cluster, **Shri Tapan Ray, MD & Group CEO, GIFT City**, said, "Establishing a maritime cluster is a much-needed step towards advancing India's credentials and economic viability in this sector. We are delighted that India's first international maritime cluster will be located in GIFT City which will help in realising the full potential of India's marine prowess. GIFT City has the unique distinction of being India's first IFSC and inclusion of such institutions enhance our value proposition. GIFT City will provide a conducive ecosystem for the Gujarat Maritime Board to collaborate and innovate. GIFT's success is primarily due to its Human Resources- People who have taken challenges as an opportunity and who are willing to tread the untrodden path in their quest for success".

Speaking about the development, **Smt. Avantika Singh, IAS – Vice-Chairman & CEO, GMB** said, "This will be first of its kind commercial maritime services cluster in India which has been conceptualized to enhance competitiveness and self-sufficiency of India in the maritime sector and provide one stop solution for entire maritime fraternity. GIFT City provides us with a seamless environment to create a robust maritime fraternity and strengthen its value chain. GIFT City has state-of-the art infrastructure and world-class banking facilities and institutions, that will be beneficial for fostering innovation, economic viability, collaboration and business opportunities for the Cluster. We welcome maritime fraternity to take advantage of this platform and participate in this initiative."

The Cluster intends to host an array of maritime industry players, such as key regulators/ government agencies to ensure 'Ease of Doing Business' for the cluster members; maritime/shipping industry Associations and businesses; intermediate services providers, such as Shipping Finance, Marine Insurance, Maritime Arbitrators, Maritime Law Firms, etc.; and support Services Providers, such as Maritime Education Institutes, etc..



Gift City

The Maritime Cluster also intends to house an Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) Centre, focused on maritime / shipping. This shall ensure economic benefits and ease of doing business for the maritime fraternity, which currently has to depend on International Arbitration Centers. **The state of the art campus of Gujarat Maritime University – a premier institute for maritime education in India, is also coming up at the GIFT City.**

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