



Guiding Spirit to Shipping Industry

# Sagar Sandesh

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## Wavelength secures methanol fuel supply deal in China



Methanol Powered Tankers

Portugal-based energy and tech company Wavelength Technology Center has secured a contract for a methanol marine fuel supply system.

As informed, the company has been awarded the engineering supply contract to design a methanol fuel supply system for marine engines. The system will be installed at an undisclosed engine manufacturing site in China.

Furthermore, it will be used to perform the factory acceptance tests of the dual-fuel methanol engines built at that site.

Meanwhile, the firm will be responsible for the design and engineering package of the complete methanol handling. This includes providing a fuel bunkering station for fuel storage and supply to the engines.

The system will interface with

the engine's controls to provide the necessary response during the demanding conditions needed while engines are being tested, according to Wavelength Technology Center.

The methanol plant will be built and delivered on-site by **ContiOcean Environment Tech**, Chinese marine technology group focusing on the development and research of marine and offshore environment protection solutions.

At present, based on the exhaust gas clean system reference of more than 140 vessels, ContiOcean Group has developed products including LNG/LEG-fuel gas supply system, methanol/LPG/ammonia-LFSS fuel supply system, and LNG/LPG/LCO2/ammonium-cargo handling system.

Based on the R&D of methanol main engines and the R&D of large-scale production

of green methanol, many shipping companies have selected methanol as their future marine fuel, thus achieving the goal of large-scale reduction of CO2 and other GHG emissions. As a result, the industrial chain of marine methanol fuel will

also develop rapidly. Recently **Methanol engines continue to rise with a major order from many ship owners including Maersk and Eastaway Singapore/X-Press Feeders.**

According to the latest figures, the contract-signed projects for green methanol production will have a total annual output of more than 2.6 million tons in 2024-2025, which can be used for 150 Aframax tankers, 250 feeder container ships or 60 very large container vessels.



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## New Pamban Bridge likely to be Operational early 2023



New Pamban Bridge

RAMESHWARAM  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The Rs 250 crore first vertical lift bridge built in the Railway network linking Mainland with the Rameshwaram islands is likely to be operational early next year as the Rail Vikas Nigam have completed over eighty per cent of the civil works as of now.

**The commissioning of the modern Pamban rail**

**bridge will not only help carry more freight into the islands, but also increase the speed of the train crossing the Palk Straits in Bay of Bengal.**

The new railway bridge along with 10 meter draft could be of strategic interest to the country since it could help swift movement of naval ships from east to west coasts and vice versa without having to go around Sri Lanka.

The new Pamban Bridge is expected to be operational in March of next year according to a top official of the Southern railway. The Railways, however, has not provided a precise timetable for when the bridge's construction will be finished.

India's 1st vertical lift Railway Sea Bridge-Pamban Bridge connecting the mainland of India with Rameswaram Island.

81% work completed  
Piling Work: All 333 piles completed  
Pile cap & Sub-Structure: All 101 completed  
76 out of 99 girders launched

**The bridge will cost about Rs 250 crores.** A 63-meter section of the bridge's more than 2 KM-long lengths will lift up while still being parallel to the deck to give access to the ships. The bridge is 6,776 feet (2,065 m) long and 12.5 metres above sea level. Two ships will be able to cross this bridge simultaneously thanks to its planned automobile construction.

## PORT NEWS

### Cyclone Sitrang: Chittagong Port Operation Suspended

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The port has taken all necessary preparations to deal with the cyclone, says the port official.

**As Cyclone Sitrang approaches the shore at high speed, the Directorate of Meteorology has issued Distress Signal No 6 to the Chittagong port.**



Chittagong port

As a result, all operations at Chittagong Port have been suspended, said Md Omar Faruq, secretary of Chittagong Port Authority. He said a special caution alert-3 has been already issued in Chittagong port. The port has taken all necessary preparations to deal with the cyclone. Furthermore, all types of operations have been suspended in Chittagong port, he added.

Md Omar Faruq said vessels at the outer anchorage have been directed to relocate to a secure harbour.

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## MARINE NEWS



"Failure is a lesson learned; success is a lesson applied."

## Mazagon docks enters into an agreement for artificial intelligence



Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders

MUMBAI  
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

Altair, a global leader in computational science and artificial intelligence (AI), signed

an agreement with the state owned Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders a shipbuilding company to collaborate in multiple simulation areas.

The companies said, as part of this collaboration with the Mumbai based Mazagon Docks Limited owned by the Defense ministry will utilise Altair's solutions for simulation-driven design and validation, structural fidelity calculations, shock and vibration assessments, hydrodynamic loading, and electromagnetic simulation.

In order to develop its robust ship engineering and design capabilities, MDL already uses a variety of Altair solutions. Through the collaboration agreement, both companies are able to strengthen their relationship.

Altair solutions are used extensively in the Marine and Maritime industries. Altair helps naval architects address complex engineering challenges and mitigate environmental risks associated with seagoing loads including structural, hydro, dynamic, thermal, and

fatigue, as well as above surface and underwater weapon threats for the military and homeland security.

We will continue our work with MDL, further and more extensive collaboration between Altair and MDL will lead to breakthroughs in marine and defense technology which make vessels safer and more efficient for their crews said a spokesman of Altair."

Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders has facilities in Mumbai and Nhava, and utilizes the latest software design technology to stay abreast of the latest advances in Maritime and defense technology.

## The World's Largest Cruise Ship Coming to Royal Caribbean's Fleet



Image Courtesy  
royalcaribbean.com

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Royal Caribbean has disclosed details on its

upcoming ship, the "Icon of the Seas". The vessel has been under construction in Finland for a year. It will be sailing from Miami and is due to enter service in January 2024.

The vessel is shaping up to be the largest in the world, dethroning even the behemoths of Royal Caribbean's Oasis class. The vessel is 1,198 feet long and will be 10 feet longer

than the current largest ship in the world, the "Wonder of the Seas".

The new cruise ship is being built by the shipbuilder, Meyer Turku, and is one of three ordered for Royal Caribbean's new Icon class. The Icon of the Seas will have 2,805 staterooms and a passenger capacity of 7,800 people.

The vessel will have a total crew count of 2,350.

The ship has many attention - grabbing amenities such as the largest pool in the sea, the largest water park in the sea, six record-breaking slides, and 6 additional pools.

Passengers will also have more conventional distractions such as restaurants, bars, shops,

and an outdoor Central Park garden. There is also an Aqua Theater in a glass dome at the front of the superstructure. This dome will be a tranquil area in the daytime and will feature restaurants at night.

The Icon of the Seas will also be Royal Caribbean's first ship to be powered by LNG and the first to have fuel cell technology. Other technologies such as ship-to-shore connection and heat recovery systems are also being employed.

## Two Dead, Two Missing after Passenger Vessels Collide off Dutch Coast



© TasfotoNL / Adobe Stock

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

At least two people died when two boats collided on Friday 21 Oct in the Dutch Wadden Sea close to Terschelling island, and two people are still missing, local authorities said.

A ferry boat and a smaller water taxi collided early on Friday morning, causing people on board of the smaller boat to fall in the water.

While four people were rescued shortly after the collision, two passengers

died and two were still missing on Friday afternoon. Local media citing the coast guard reported the missing people are a 12-year-old boy and an adult man.

None of the passengers on the ferry boat fell in the water.

"It's a terrible day," Terschelling Mayor Caroline van de Pol told reporters. "There is an emotion of mourning and sadness on the island. It's a dark day."

Authorities gave no details on what caused the incident.



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## MARINE NEWS



"Failure is a lesson learned; success is a lesson applied."

## Supply Chain Issues Continue to Delay Cruise Ship Newbuilds



Explora I before her float out in May 2022 (Fincantieri)

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Continuing supply chain disruptions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and repercussions from the war in Ukraine are continuing to impact cruise ship construction.

The new brand Explora Journeys being developed

by MSC is the latest to announce a delay in the maiden voyage of its cruise ship following previous announcements from Norwegian Cruise Line similarly rescheduling the first sailings of two of its new cruise ships.

Following the global shutdowns due to the pandemic in 2020, the shipyards worked with the lines to reschedule the delivery of newbuild cruise ships. While the result was that none of the major lines canceled any of their major orders, delivery dates were typically reset by as much as six months to accommodate the impact

on work schedules at the yards.

Persistent problems in supply chains and then the invasion of Ukraine however created unexpected additional challenges for the shipbuilders which use a global network of suppliers, including contractors from Eastern Europe.

The first of Explora Journey's new cruise ships, the Explora I, was floated at the Fincantieri shipyard in Monfalcone, Italy on May 30, 2021. The 813-foot cruise ship will be 63,900 gross tons with accommodations for 922 passengers. Explora,

which is MSC's entry into the upscale, luxury cruise segment, said it would kick off operations with a May 31, 2023, 11-night maiden voyage from Barcelona to Athens. The cruise ship was scheduled to spend the next weeks operating in the Mediterranean before repositioning in July 2023 to Northern Europe.

"We are working with one of the world's foremost ship and super yacht builders to create the best luxury hospitality brand and experience. However, taking into consideration the challenging situation facing the world today including global supply

chain complications we have had to take the difficult decision, agreed with the shipyard, Fincantieri, to update our ship's coming into service schedule," said Michael Ungerer, CEO of Explora Journeys, earlier this week writing to passengers and travel advisors to inform them of revisions to the company's launch plan.

The maiden voyage is being delayed nearly two months to July 17, 2023. The first cruise will now depart from Southampton, England sailing to Northern Europe. Details of the launch voyages have not been released with the website not offering online bookings until August 2023.

## Wärtsilä to supply electrical package for new research vessel

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Wärtsilä is to provide and integrate the electrical system package for the new German research vessel Meteor IV. Its scope of supply includes the design integration of all the electrical systems and provision of the switchboards, the electrical distribution and drive systems, generators, as well as the entire lighting system and special systems for energy supply. The vessel will be outfitted with an integrated NACOS Platinum navigation and automation system.

Additionally, Wärtsilä will



Research vessel Meteor IV is set for delivery in 2026 [Image: Fassmer]

deliver the bridge consoles and solid state radar technology

The 125 meter long ship is being built for Germany's Federal Ministry of Education and Research by a consortium of shipbuilders Meyer Werft and Fassmer under a contract awarded in January.

Set for completion in 2026, it will be the replacement vessel for both the current research vessel Meteor and the already decommissioned Poseidon

The new Meteor IV is designed for worldwide multifunctional and interdisciplinary research use, with a focus on the Atlantic.

Wärtsilä will be involved throughout the entire duration of the building project..

"With Wärtsilä, we have a strong and competent systems partner at our side. Wärtsilä SAM Electronics is already supporting us with its extensive know-how in the

construction of two 50-meter test and survey vessels for the German Navy. We are, therefore, happy to continue this good cooperation for this highly complex research vessel," says Harald Fassmer, Managing Partner of the Fassmer shipyard.

"We are delighted that Wärtsilä has been selected as the trusted partner for this challenging project. We are happy to contribute our depth of experience in the construction of research vessels and are confident that, together with the expertise of Fassmer and Meyer, we will make this project a success," says Harald Baumgarten, managing director of Hamburg-based Wärtsilä SAM Electronics.

## SHIPPING NEWS

## Government Plans to Start Cruise Services on Yamuna River

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

According to officials, the cruise service will commence from JugalGhat Vrindavan and terminate at 'VasudeoVatika' adjacent to Gokul barrage, with halts at various points.

The government plans to

start cruise services on the Yamuna river, a top official of UP BrajTirthVikasParishad said recently.

An order has been placed with Cochin Shipyard by the Union government for two cruises. These cruises will be handed over to the Parishad, its Chief Executive Officer, NagendraPratap said.

Under the scheme, more than half a dozen jetties would be developed for the 22 km journey from Vrindavan to Gokul, they added. The officials said the Union government is also developing similar river transport in Ayodhya and Varanasi.



These cruises will be handed over to the Parishad, its Chief Executive Officer, Nagendra Pratap said.



# Building Green Corridors for Shipping Will Take Teamwork

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Green Corridors, conceived a year ago through the Clydebank Declaration at COP26 taking place along the banks of the River Clyde in Glasgow, are set to move rapidly beyond the talking stage towards real implementations and demonstration projects.

One definition of a corridor, taken from a just-released American Bureau of Shipping (ABS) publication on the subject,

is: “the geographical connection between two locations (could be specific maritime routes or it could be multiple ports between two regions) and the enabling environment that helps reduce emissions.”

**Different facilitators of the corridors offer**



Photo: By Alex Kolokythas Photography / Shutterstock

**different definitions of what, exactly, a green corridor is.**

At a high level, all encompass ships' profitably hauling cargo in a range of ports where cleaner fuels are readily available. Owners and operators of vessels, charterers, fuel suppliers, port operators and governmental regulators are all part of the mix.

In conjunction with the recent SHIPPINGInsight 2022 event held in Stamford, Connecticut, the ABS organized an

excellent panel discussion on the subject of these corridors, and how to get them started, moderated by David Walker from ABS's Global Government Services office outside Washington, D.C. The panel included representatives from shipowners Crowley and Pasha, the Blue Sky Maritime Coalition, and the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA).

Much has been written about the vessel side, and the role of shipowners, but the vital but underappreciated role of ports (a key

ingredient, perhaps the glue, in the recipe for industry decarbonization) has received less attention.

**Panelist Ian Gansler, representing AAPA, spoke through the lens of ports competing for calls by vessels requiring new/alternative fuels.**

As repeated throughout SHIPPING Insight and numerous other industry events, cooperation and collaboration are required to build the corridors. As ABS's top man, Chris Wiernicki, has said on multiple occasions, **shipping needs to become more of a team sport.**

## SCI gets lenders nod on demerger scheme; Irano Hind issue close to being “sorted out”

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Shipping Corporation of India Ltd (SCI) has secured backing from its secured and unsecured lenders on the demerger scheme that entails transferring Rs1,000 crore from the firm's surplus cash to the non-core company spun off from the listed entity ahead of sale.

State Bank of India, EXIM Bank and Standard Chartered Bank are the main lenders to SCI. **The lender's nod is a big step forward for the demerger scheme, which is key to the privatisation process of India's biggest ocean carrier.**

Six unsecured creditors representing 0.3689 percent of the total debt in value held by unsecured creditors, though, voted against the demerger resolution when it was put to vote on 11 October. In comparison, all the secured creditors voted in favour of the demerger plan.

The six unsecured creditors who voted against the demerger

plan were probably skeptical of the planned higher fund transfer of Rs1,000 crore to the non-core company, which was pegged at Rs450 crore in the original scheme of arrangement approved last year, as it would hurt the company's ability to service the debt, raise the risk profile of SCI among banks and force lenders to re-price the loan.

The huge amount set to be stripped off the company's cash surplus is also expected to impact its ability to carry on day-to-day operations. SCI has a surplus cash of Rs1,406.91 crore (cash and cash equivalents and bank balances) as on 31 March 2022, according to its latest financial statements.

**Effectively, SCI would then be left with Rs273.06 crore, which will be grossly insufficient for the company management to run the show and earn money, potentially “stifling” the ocean carrier, putting it under financial stress and on course to becoming a loss-making entity.**

The demerger scheme is aimed at facilitating privatisation of the main company by unlocking the value of business and assets. The government's stand is that the value of non-core assets is not getting reflected in the value of SCI's main business (core assets) and hence needs to be separated before sale.



State Bank of India, EXIM Bank and Standard Chartered Bank are the main lenders to SCI.

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## Capesize bulker spot rates slide 4.5% in a day as iron ore and steel prices drop



Capesize bulker rates slide

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Spot rates for capesize bulkers receded on Thursday 20 Oct as prices for iron ore and steel fell in the face of weakening demand.

The Baltic Exchange's Capesize 5TC of spot-rate averages across five key routes slid 4.5% to \$17,505 per day, marking the lowest level in a week.

Clarksons Securities pointed to reports that iron ore prices have fallen to below \$90 per tonne, bringing them to their lowest level this year, and steel prices have slipped as Beijing's Covid-19 situation worsened.

As capesizes led the Baltic Dry Index into a one-day drop of 34 points

to 1,837, bulker shares also slid, with the Breakwave Dry Bulk Shipping Exchange Traded Fund falling 2.8% to \$8.70 in afternoon trading in New York.

**Clarksons said it still expects dry bulk equities to remain firm as long as average capesize spot rates stay at or above \$15,000 per day.**

Amid the day's fixtures, Australian miner Rio Tinto chartered two unnamed capesizes on Wednesday

to carry 170,000 tonnes of iron ore each at \$9.10 and \$9.15 per tonne after they get loaded from 2 to 6 November.

That is lower than the \$9.35 per tonne price that the iron ore giant paid to hire an unnamed capesize on Tuesday on the same route, with loading from from 1 to 3 November.

Capesize spot rates may also get a boost as a result of higher tonne-mile demand as Russia redirects discounted coal to India since the EU placed

sanctions on Russian coal imports on 10 August, Bimco shipping analyst Filipe Gouveia said.

This heightened demand from India caused tonne-mile demand to grow by almost 30% in the last 10 weeks because India is about twice the seagoing distance from Russia at more than 2,000 km, Gouveia said.

He noted that China has been the largest buyer of Russian coal this year, and that China gets 23% of its coal from Russia.

## Russia rushes to fix tanker fleet with six weeks to go until EU crude ban starts

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

With six weeks to go until Europe's ban on Russian crude kicks in, the scale of the global tanker fleet rejig Moscow is attempting is coming into focus.

By December 5, tanker owners that fly any European Union flag or carry P&I insurance from an EU club can no longer have crude oil onboard that originated in Russia, unless Russia has sold the crude to the buyer at or under an agreed price cap.

**With 42 days to go, Russian oil exporters are shelling out significant sums on ships and overseas operations with Dubai**



This extensive Russian tanker buying has helped prop up tanker prices a great deal of late.

emerging as a key centre for a new chapter in Russian tanker trades.

"The Russian government has had some time to prepare for the EU import ban and the associated restrictions on financial and maritime services, including cargo

and vessel insurance," pointed out analysts at tanker brokers Poten & Partners in their latest weekly report, **questioning whether the Russians will have built up enough "alternative capacity"** and how willing countries such as Denmark and Turkey would be to allow a growing fleet of older, less well maintained, maybe underinsured tankers pass through the Danish Straits and the Bosphorus.

Anticipating China will increase its imports of Russian crude, while Turkey and nations in South and Southeast Asia will sustain their purchases analysts at brokers Braemar anticipate a capacity equivalent to nearly 300 aframax

will be required to carry the 3.5m barrels per day of Russian export trade at an average speed of 10 knots. This further breaks down into 18 VLCCs, 65 suezmaxes and 157 aframax – an estimate from Braemar which includes an allowance for additional time for ship-to-ship operations.

**Braemar calculates that Russia currently faces a shortfall of nearly 70 aframax and 35 suezmaxes to move the trade in its entirety.** Braemar believes the dedicated Russian controlled fleet is 50 aframax/LR2s and 10 suezmaxes. This includes the shuttle tanker fleet, not all of which be available for international voyages.

## Inland Water Transport resumes in Bangladesh after Cyclone makes a Landfall

DHAKA  
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

The Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) has announced the resumption of operation of all types of water transport services across Bangladesh as the cyclonic storm Sitrang completed its landfall on October 24th night and weakened to a tropical

depression according to Bangladesh media reports.

**The authorities took the decision on October 25th morning with the inclement weather improving gradually.**

The cyclonic storm Sitrang hit the coastal areas of Bangladesh on October 24th evening triggering gale winds and rainfall in the southern parts of the

country. Most parts of the country, including Dhaka, witnessed moderate to heavy rains from Sunday Oct 24 morning under the impact of the cyclonic storm.

Authorities have prepared more than 7,000 cyclone shelters to evacuate people while all fishing boats and trawlers over North Bay and deep sea have been asked to remain anchored.



The authorities took the decision on October 25th morning with the inclement weather improving gradually

## CONTAINER TERMINAL NEWS



"Worrying will never change the outcome"

## China's self-driving trucks in Thailand Port



NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

As many as 20 electric and autonomous Q-Trucks, join

in loading and unloading activities at Laem Chabang port, Thailand's largest deep sea port.

**Equipped with advanced AI machine-learning technology and a wireless charging system, the Chinese-made Q-Trucks are able to operate non-stop for more than 24 hours or can travel as far as 140 km.**

"Q-Trucks are smart trucks with no drivers required, which operate with AI, sensors, and GPS.

Since they arrived two years ago, they have been integrated with the existing conventional fleet of trucks to transport containers between the quay and the yard, said Thai Port official.

The Q-Trucks are built by Shanghai Westwell Information and Technology Company Ltd., a Chinese company specializing in AI development for commercial and industrial settings.

**Equipped with advanced AI machine-learning technology and a wireless charging system, the trucks are able to operate non-stop**

**for more than 24 hours or can travel as far as 140 kilometers.**

In the past 25 months, the Q-Trucks fleet has been deployed for daily operations and has successfully transported more than 150,000 containers, according to Hutchison Ports Thailand, the operator of terminal D.

**Thailand is transforming Laem Chabang port into a regional hub, improving safety and efficiency of terminal, while lowering costs and delivering greener solutions, according to the port authority.**

## Europe's largest intermodal 5G terminal opens in Hungary



The new intermodal terminal East-West Gate (EWG) has opened in Fényeslitke, on the Hungary-Ukraine border - the first 5G-operated logistics terminal in Europe.

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

With a private investment from East-West Intermodal

Logistics Zrt. of more than HUF40 billion (\$95 million), EWG can handle up to 1 million TEU per year and is the largest such facility on the continent in terms of both capacity and area.

The new terminal is suitable for loading trucks and conventional road semi-trailers onto rail and offers significant capacity for transshipment of agricultural products.

EWG is expected to become the largest rail hub for Ukrainian food exports.

Following preparatory works, construction started in January 2021 on an 85-hectare site to build a total of 10 kilometres of standard and wide-gauge railway track and 225,000 square metres of concrete pavement.

**A warehouse of 15,000 square metres is also available for use.**

EWG received the railway licence from the National Transport Authority in June following

a successful technological and technical trial run.

"With the construction of the East-West Gate, Hungary is back on the map of international rail logistics," said János Tálosi, CEO of East-West Intermodal Logistics Zrt.

**EWG is the first in Europe to control cranes remotely using 5G technology.**

The terminal has a 41-metre wide and two 28-metre-wide giant cranes on rails, as well as a 20-metre-high rubber-tyred crane (RTG).

The cranes, supplied by Austrian company Künz, are equipped with 20 high-resolution cameras which can be viewed in real time with the help of 5G.

The private 5G network was built by Vodafone Hungary and the network equipment supplied by Huawei.

**A realistic virtual twin of the terminal (Digital Twin) has also been created to track processes and operations of the logistics centre in real time and in 3D.**

## APM Terminals announces new service and new equipment order at Miami box terminal

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The first ship deployed on CMA CGM's new Medgulf service, CMA CGM Navegantes called for the first time the South Florida Container Terminal (SFCT) in the Port of Miami, as part of the service rotation.

**APM Terminals announces new service and equipment order at Miami box terminal**

The French carrier's Medgulf service started at the end of September and calls Tanger (Morocco), Genoa (Italy), Valencia (Spain), Miami (US), Veracruz (Mexico),

Altamira (Mexico), Houston (US) and Tanger.

Six vessels will be deployed on the service's new route, which is expected to offer improved transit times.

Meanwhile, SFCT announced an order for 12 electric cranes with emission-free tyres

from Kalmar. The new equipment is anticipated to be delivered in the second quarter of 2023.

This is expected to transform the facility into a more sustainable operation, according to APM Terminals, with new, electric rubber-tyred gantry cranes (RTGs) and additional cargo storage space, using a densification model that allows 33% more usability at the container dock than before.

**"This will increase capacity to approximately 300,000 lifts per year," said APM Terminals.**



Miami Box terminal

South Florida Container Terminal was founded in 2008 and is a joint venture between the Maersk-owned port operator and Terminal Link. According to APM Terminals, Miami is the first port of call for Florida-bound cargo from Latin America and Asia.

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## PORTS (REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL)

"News is what somebody somewhere wants to suppress; all the rest is advertising." - Lord Northcliffe

# Tajpur Port will depend on fate of Deucha-Pachami Coal Block



Tajpur Port

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The future of the proposed deep-sea port at **Tajpur** in West Bengal's East Midnapore district depends on whether work can start at the **Deucha-Pachami-Dewanganj-Harinsinga**

(DPDH)Coal Block in the state, a senior official in the state government said.

The DPDH coal block in Birbhum district is the second largest coal block in the world containing about 1,198 million tonnes of coal and 1,400 million tonnes of basalt.

"The Adani Group is interested in investing in the DPDH coal block. The West Bengal government has also issued the Letter of Intent (LoI) for the Tajpur port in favour of **Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ)**

Ltd. The Adani Group company will have to invest several thousand crores to build this port. Such investment will be justified only if the company can start mining the DPDH coal block. Coal from this block can then be exported through the Tajpur port," the official said.

Without this assured cargo, there is little possibility of any substantial import or export growth in the east that would make the port viable. Problem is that the DPDH coal block has already run

into trouble over proposed displacement of families, many of them Adivasis.

"The coal at DPDH is sandwiched between layers of basalt. **Special equipment and technology will be required to extract both the coal and basalt. A lot of investment will be required for this.** Such investment will only be made by a corporate house after the land has been cleared and there is no possibility of trouble.. The government will have to ensure relocation of the families currently living

over and around the coal block.

They will also have to be paid compensation," he added. It is estimated that nearly 21,000 people (including over 9,000 Adivasis) will be displaced due to this project.

However, agitations have already started against any effort to relocate people. Political parties like the CPM have also entered the fray against any attempt to mine coal there.

Activists have also struck out against the governments' decision to relocate Adivasis from their ancestral land and exploit resources that are rightfully theirs.

# Another two-week strike starts at Liverpool port

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Liverpool dockworkers are downing tools for another two weeks from 24 Oct as a bitter pay dispute between Peel Ports and trade union Unite shows no sign of resolution.

Peel Ports chief operating officer David Huck commented: "It's **hugely disappointing that Unite**

has staged yet another outdated show-of-hands mass meeting which has, very predictably, failed to support our improved 11% pay offer. This is the highest percentage increase of any port group in the UK by far and would see average annual pay rise to £43,275 (\$49,016)."

The port has faced a number of strike actions in recent months with carriers forced to reroute calls to

other ports around the British isles. Pay disputes also saw a strike at the country's top boxport, Felixstowe, in the summer.

Unite general secretary Sharon Graham said: "The Unite team negotiated in good faith with Peel Ports. But **the talks ended in farce**, with the deal agreed between Unite and senior management being pulled by the board. Strike action by our members and with the full



Pic: Peel Ports

support of Unite will go ahead. Peel Ports' untrustworthy behaviour and its attempts to threaten the workforce are only escalating the dispute."

# From Vizhinjam Port the agitation spreads to nearby fishing harbor

TIRUVANANTHAPURAM  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

As agitation against the construction of the Vizhinjam Port belonging to Adani group entered the 100th day, fishermen backed by the Latin Church have expanded the scope of their protest to include the construction of a nearby fishing harbor at Muthalappozhi on the same grounds as causing coastal erosion.

A pastoral letter issued by Archbishop Thomas J Netto, which was read out in the parishes under the Thiruvananthapuram diocese on October 23 during the Sunday 23 Oct

mass, asked all members to join the protest at the sea at Muthalappozhi fishing harbor and on the land at Vizhinjam port on the day. It urged the community members to strengthen the protest as the stir completes 100 days on October 27.

**The fishermen community blamed the unscientific construction of the Muthalappozhi harbour for the rise in sea accidents in the region.**

Meanwhile the Kerala government has appointed Pune-based Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS) to study the problem. However,



Vizhinjam port

the protestors insisted that a representative with knowledge of the local condition should be part of the study.

The government had on October 6 appointed a four-member team led by M D Kudale, former additional

director of CWPRS, to study the impact of the Vizhinjam port on the coast. However, the government did not consider the protestors' demand to include an expert from their side. As an alternative, the Vizhinjam

protesters formed a seven-member committee of its own to conduct a parallel study and submit the report in three months.

K V Thomas, former scientist and group head at National Centre for Earth Science Studies, who conducted extensive studies in the area, is chairing the team. The team will study the coastal erosion in the area and the impact of port construction on the life and livelihood of people on the coast, and arrive at a suitable compensation. Eugene H Pereira, Vicar General of the Thiruvananthapuram Latin Archdiocese and general convener of the protest, said the report will be placed before the public.



## Maersk, SCZONE and Siemens Energy discuss green hydrogen projects



Maersk Egypt, Siemens and Representatives of SCZONE discussed the identification of the green hydrogen industry and its complementary industries.

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

During the meeting, the officials discussed

the framework of the feasibility studies prepared by the companies in preparation for the signing of the final contracts at

the cop27 summit, for the implementation of the pilot phases of the projects.

“SCZONE provides full support to the companies that have signed memoranda of understanding for the settlement of green fuel, especially with regard to the technical support in the phase of feasibility studies, due to the special nature of green fuel projects related to the modernity of these projects, the necessary technology and the logistical nature of the sites in which they are located,” said **Waleid Gamal Eldein, SCZONE Chairman.**

He added, “The technical studies stage always requires joint cooperation to reach the best results that enable our partners to reach the implementation of these promising projects according to the expected schedule.”

The discussions took place in the context of the cooperation and support that SCZONE provides to its partners in green fuel construction projects.

SCZONE has expressed its willingness to ensure the availability of the necessary environmental, legal and technical requirements in line with the highest

international standards for green fuel localisation projects in its industrial zones.

“We are pleased with this fruitful collaboration with SCZONE and Siemens wishes to take into account a number of technical factors related to the project, which are aimed at maximising the use of the economic zone resources, facilities and incentives provided, in addition to the magnitude of the achievement that can be achieved through cooperation between the project stakeholders,” commented Eng. Layla El Hares, vice chairman and managing director of Siemens Energy in Egypt.

## 200 Electric buses to ply in Srinagar, Jammu

JAMMU  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

About 200 electric buses will soon ply on the roads in the twin capital cities of Srinagar and Jammu in Jammu and Kashmir, in an attempt by

the government to establish an environmentally, socially and financially sustainable network of public transport according to local media reports.

**Tata Motors will supply, operate and provide maintenance of electric**

**buses, 100 each in Jammu and Srinagar.**

Chalo Mobility will deploy its consumer technology solutions to offer convenience like Electronic Ticket Issuing Machines (ETIMs),



Electric bus

Automated Fare Collection System (AFCS), mobile app with mobile tickets and mobile passes platform,

Smart Cards platform and cloud-based hosting to commuters. Passengers travelling in electric buses can get details like real-time tracking of buses, how congested it is, along with expected time of arrival.

## Vehicular traffic between Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh standstill following clashes

TIRUPATHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

Vehicular traffic between Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh near Tirupathi came to a standstill for an hour following a free-for-all clash at a toll plaza in Andhra Pradesh's Tirupati entry point.

The incident happened after students of a law college from Tamil Nadu

were stopped due to a payment-related issue. The students went on a rampage, attacking the toll booth staff with helmets, and reportedly also damaged a few vehicles present there.

The clash continued for a while despite a police team rushing to the spot and confronting the law students, warning them not to disturb the moment of vehicles at the toll plaza.

The students were



Vehicular traffic to a standstill...

returning after an exam when the vehicle of one of the law students was

stopped at the toll plaza as his FASTag payment did not work. The student was then asked to move back his car and clear the way for other vehicles queuing up behind them.

This enraged the students who reportedly attacked the staff with helmets.

The police rushed to the spot and asked the students not to disturb the movement of other vehicles. But the students remained adamant

and allegedly gave way only to vehicles having Tamil Nadu registration and prevented vehicles from Andhra Pradesh from passing through. This led to a massive fight between the students and a group of local residents.

The police have launched an investigation to ascertain the entire incident and has also promised strict action against those involved.

## SEAFARERS NEWS



"Worrying will never change the outcome"

## Women seafarers experience onboard

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

An in-depth survey in the maritime industry revealed shocking figures in gender-based discrimination against women, onboard harassment and bullying.

WISTA International, Anglo Eastern, International Seafarers Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN) and International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) conducted a public online survey (timeframe to be added) designed to examine how female seafarers perceived "discrimination" and how it manifested onboard based on their personal experiences.

The complete findings from the survey and recommendations are published in **The Diversity Handbook**, being launched at the WISTA International conference in Geneva, Switzerland, on 26 October 2022.

### 1128 women seafarers from 78 countries

- 60% of women reported encountering gender-based discrimination onboard
- 66% of the respondents concur that their male employees had turned to harassing and intimidating female co-workers
- 25% reported that in the shipping sector, **physical and sexual harassment is common**, occurring on board and involving intrusions on their privacy
- The first handbook on gender diversity's launch in January 2018 received an impressive response to its survey.

The recent one, also initiated by SanjamSahi Gupta, Founder of WISTA India and a WISTA International Executive Committee member from 2014-2021 – was completed by 1128 women from 78 countries. The Philippines



Women seafarers onboard perceive gender-based discrimination, to say the least

(399) had the largest proportion, followed by the United States (98), the United Kingdom (57), South Africa (51), Brazil (47), India (41), Peru (36), Columbia (35) and Indonesia (35).

The majority of respondents, approximately 90%, work on cruise ships, with the remainder employed on cargo ships, gas and oil tankers, container ships (>8000 TEU), general cargo/geared vessels, chemical tankers, bulk carriers and tugs.

Sanjam Sahi Gupta, Founder of

### WISTA India and co-chair of the WISTA International Diversity Committee, declares:

"There is an urgent need to create a more diverse, inclusive and equitable maritime community, with women seafarers deserving a respectful and safe working environment. The recent report revealed unacceptable figures with women facing gender discrimination, harassment and bullying on the sea."

Ongoing campaigns from organisations, including IMO, ITF and ICS, could make a real difference in attempting to improve through in-depth research into the issue and by consistently engaging with employers and reputable maritime universities. The campaigns should promote the recruitment of more women seafarers while ensuring that women who are accepted on board will have conducive, safe and inclusive working environments.

## IMO NEWS

## IMO invites Sanjam Gupta to talk on Biofouling



Mrs. Sanjam Gupta addressing at IMO

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) invited Mrs. SanjamSahi Gupta, Director Sitara Shipping Ltd to talk at the 2nd GloFouling Partnerships R&D Forum and Exhibition on

### Biofouling Prevention and Management for Maritime Industries.

Biofouling is a crucial part of the maritime industry and an even more critical part of reaching IMO's 2030 goal.

Mrs. Sanjam spoke about how important it is to have more diversity, not only because it's "the

right thing" to do, but also because it's the smart thing to do.

Having more women in biofouling at various levels makes good business sense.

Mrs. Sanjam is an advocate for Diversity and Inclusion in the Maritime sector and works with the IMO on important projects like the GHG smart program.

## TRADE BODY NEWS

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

### Overview

NASSCOM, a not-for-profit industry association, is the apex body for the \$227 billion dollar IT BPM industry in India, an industry that had made a phenomenal contribution to India's GDP, exports, employment, infrastructure and global visibility. In India, this industry provides the

## NASSCOM

highest employment in the private sector.

Established in 1988 and ever since, NASSCOM's relentless pursuit has been to constantly support the IT BPM industry, in the latter's continued journey towards seeking trust and respect from varied stakeholders, even as it reorients itself time and again to remain innovative, without ever losing its humane and friendly touch.



NASSCOM is focused on building the architecture integral to the development of the IT BPM sector through policy advocacy, and help in setting up the strategic direction for the sector to unleash its potential and dominate newer frontiers.

NASSCOM's members, 3000+, constitute 90% of the industry's revenue and have enabled the association to spearhead initiatives at local, national and global levels. In turn, the IT BPM industry has gained recognition as a global powerhouse.

# LOGISTICS (ROAD/RAIL/AVIATION)



A Smooth Sea Never Made a Skilled Sailor. - John George Hermanson

## 'Robotics - As -A-Service' For Warehouse Automation



Start-up Unbox Robotics is offering 'Robotics-as-a-Service'

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

In order to cater to the automation needs of small and medium warehouses, start-up Unbox Robotics

is offering 'Robotics-as-a-Service' with a focus on servicing e-commerce, retail and logistics enterprises with a flexible 'plug & play' model.

The Warehousing Standards released along with the National Logistics Policy in September outlined that automation in warehouses through use of robotics faces challenges on account of expensive price points.

The policy document stated that adoption of

'Robotics-as-a-Service' is a good strategy to mitigate cost impact and drive automation.

"In the Robotics-as-a-Service or OPEX (operating expenditure) model, the customer doesn't have to pay a huge capital investment initially. They can take the system on a monthly fee. So, they can pay us a certain amount per month and they can automate that facility using X number of robots, it can be 20,50,100 robots,"

said Pramod Ghadge, Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer, Unbox Robotics in an interaction with ET Infra.

Unbox Robotics was formed in May 2019 and specialises in vertical parcel sortation and consolidation via robots powered by Swarm Intelligence. The company claims that its solutions improve personnel productivity by three times and increase space utilization of warehousing area by two times.

A start-up, which is little over three years old, Unbox

Robotics is getting traction steadily.

"In the last three years, we have invested extensively in developing a market-ready product and our systems have successfully gone live at three customer locations this year. We are further building our sales pipeline and are in active discussions with more than 10 customers in India, the Americas, Europe, and the Middle East," said Ghadge.

Since its inception in 2019, Unbox Robotics has been able to raise over \$9 million in funding, from venture capital firms based in India and abroad.

## Concor's Initiatives on Movement of DPD Containers by Rail

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

As a further step towards trade facilitation in reduction of transit time and logistics cost, CONCOR is pleased to inform to the trade fraternity regarding commencement of round trip movement of import DPD containers by rail from various gateway ports to hinterland terminals and return back of the de-stuffed empty containers from these hinterland terminals to the respective gateway ports.

This facility has been recently introduced on some major EXIM streams as mentioned below :

trip tariff for movement of these DPD containers by rail.

- Flexibility to the trade on movement of DPD containers by rail on merchant haulage.
- Direct rail services from Gateway Ports to various hinterland terminals under single window system with option of availing CONCOR Last mile logistic services.
- Facilitation on movement of multiple containers under single lot in one go reducing detention of containers.
- Ease of congestion faced on movement by road apart from reduction in carbon footprint.

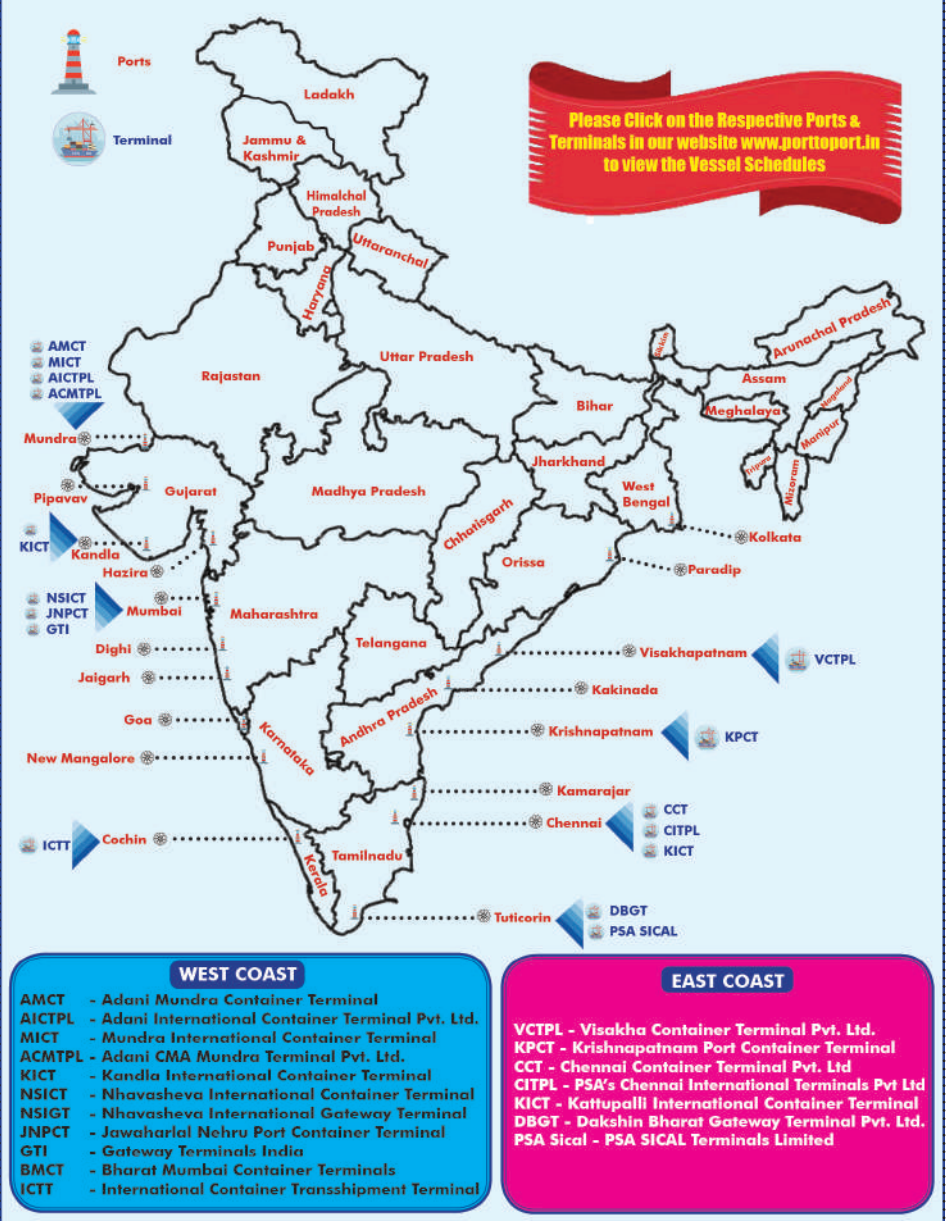
From Gateway Port	To Hinterland Terminals	From Gateway Port	To Hinterland Terminals
Jawaharlal	Dadri (UP)	Mundra Port	Dadri (UP)
Nehru Port (JNPT)	Sanathnagar (Hyderabad)	(MDCC)	Tughlakabad (Delhi)
	Whitefield (Bengaluru)		Ludhiana (Punjab)
	Kanpur		Jaipur
	Vallarpadam (Cochin)		Khatuwas (Rajasthan)

### Highlights of the newly introduced services :

- Special competitive round
- Safe, secured & faster movement of customs cleared cargo from Ports to terminals.

### VESSEL SCHEDULES

- For the benefits of our Readers the Schedules will be available in the form of a comprehensive map with a hyperlink to the web portals of Respective Ports and their Terminals.
- To know the details for any Port or Terminal, You are just required to log on to [www.portport.in](http://www.portport.in) and click the tool vessel position / Ports and terminal.





"News is what somebody somewhere wants to suppress; all the rest is advertising." - Lord Northcliffe

## EXIM TREND

# India to soon sign long-term deal to export oil from Namibia



Namibia has recently found one of the world's largest oil deposits in its territory

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

As a part of India's energy diversification

playbook, it may soon secure a long-term crude oil supply deal from Namibia.

According to a report by Mint, the development comes against the backdrop of oil discoveries by French oil majors TotaEnergies and Shell Plc.

Recently, Indian Oil Corp (IOC) signed a deal to procure oil from Colombia's Ecopetrol SA and Brazil's Petroleo Brasileiro SA (Petrobras).

"There has been a huge

find in Namibia in February this year. We get some oil from Namibia but not in large quantities. This is a long-term contract that we are looking for as it sequesters us from the vagaries of the global energy markets," an official aware of the matter said.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC+) announced a sharp cut of two million barrels per day in the output amid

high energy prices. It also planned on imposing a price cap on Russian oil. This might impact India as it has been receiving oil at heavy discounts from Russia since the start of the Russia-Ukraine war.

Namibia has recently found one of the world's largest oil deposits in its territory. They may reportedly contain recoverable reserves of around 6.5 billion barrels of oil.

"Results from our exploration wells are encouraging, establishing the presence of a working petroleum system with light oil. We'll continue evaluating the data and conduct further exploration activity to determine the extent of the system and how much of the hydrocarbons can be recovered. We look forward to continued close collaboration with our partners NAMCOR, QatarEnergy and the government of Namibia," a spokesperson of Shell said.

# Netherlands beats China, becomes India's third-largest export market



Netherlands has emerged as India's third-largest export destination,

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The Netherlands has emerged as India's third-largest export destination, ahead of China and Bangladesh. It has

moved up two spots in the list of India's top ten export destinations since FY22, thanks to a 106% surge in despatches until August this fiscal from a year before to \$7.5 billion. The export packing order has changed dramatically this fiscal.

**But what comes as a greater surprise is that Brazil, which occupied the 21st spot in FY22, is now India's 8th biggest export market.**

Similarly, Indonesia has moved up seven notches

to grab the 7th position. However, amid a demand slowdown, only two European nations—the Netherlands and the UK—are among India's top ten markets, against 4 in FY22. Germany and Belgium, which featured in the list last fiscal, are out of it now.

Meanwhile, the US and the UAE continue to be the largest and second-largest export destinations, respectively, for India. The exports to the US climbed 18.3% until August to \$35.2 billion,

while those to the UAE shot up 27.3% to \$13.8 billion.

India's exports to the Netherlands were driven mostly by a 238% jump in despatches of oil products until August this fiscal to \$3.67 billion. Even supplies of chemicals (\$513 million) and pharmaceuticals (\$219 million) remained substantial.

Meanwhile, exports to Indonesia jumped 43% to \$4.8 billion. The supplies to this Asean country were dominated by petroleum products, which jumped 144% on year up to August this fiscal to \$1.8 billion. The other key products were cereals, sugar and chemicals.

The shipment to Brazil swelled 70.9% in the

first five months of this fiscal to \$4.7 billion. The exports were driven by a 299% jump in supplies of petroleum products to \$2.3 billion, followed by those of certain chemicals (\$684 million) and automobiles, auto parts and allied products (\$233 million).

China is still battling the pandemic. So, India's exports to China contracted sharply by 35.6% until August this fiscal to \$6.8 billion, while those to Bangladesh rose just 8.7% to \$5.8 billion.

**In contrast, India's merchandise exports to all destinations grew 19.5% in the first five months of this fiscal to \$196.5 billion.**

## MINISTRY NEWS

# CDS Gen Anil Chauhan visits forward posts in Rajouri sector of J & K

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen Anil Chauhan, accompanied by White Knight Corps Commander Lt Gen Manjinder Singh, visited forward posts in Rajouri sector of Jammu & Kashmir on October 24, 2022 and celebrated Diwali with soldiers posted on the frontlines. The CDS also laid a wreath at Naman Sthal, the war memorial of Naushera Sector and paid his respects to the bravehearts who had

laid down their lives in the service of the nation.

**Gen Anil Chauhan was briefed by field commanders on the current operational situation and security scenario along the Line of Control (LoC).**

He also reviewed the development of defence infrastructure and operational preparedness undertaken despite challenging terrain and weather conditions in the region.



CDS Gen Anil Chauhan addressing the troops.

The CDS, while addressing the troops, exhorted them to inculcate professionalism and carry forward the rich tradition of courage and valour of the Indian Army. He also emphasised the need for operational preparedness of the highest order.

**The visit by the CDS on the occasion of Diwali acted as a great morale booster for troops deployed on the frontlines in challenging conditions.**