



Guiding Spirit to Shipping Industry

# Sagar Sandesh

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**India aims for 10% share in global exports by 2047**



Mr. Vijay Arora, Managing Director IRClass

## IRS expands footprint in South-East Asia

growth by IRS and over the years the classification society has strengthened its presence in South-East Asia. It has earlier received authorization as a Recognised Organisation from several maritime flag administrations in the SE Asia region including Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, and Myanmar.

**Mr. Vijay Arora, Managing Director at IRS,** said “We thank the Philippines maritime flag administration and acknowledge that this authorisation comes with the responsibility to uphold the industry-leading standards of safety and compliance, which has become synonymous with IRS around the globe.”

“This recognition from the Philippines maritime flag administration reaffirms our technical expertise and capabilities as a major classification society. Additionally, we are happy to

assist the flag administration with technical guidance and training as and when required.”

### About Indian Register of Shipping

Indian Register of Shipping (IRS) is an international

ship classification society providing ship classification and certification as well as technical inspection services. IRS is a Member of the International Association of Classification Societies (IACS).

Covering a wide range of shipping, offshore and industrial projects, their team of dedicated professionals brings international standardisation and assurance to your doorstep. For more information on IRS, please visit: <http://www.irclass.org>

Leading classification society, the **Indian Register of Shipping (IRS)**, has signed a **Recognised Organisation (RO)** agreement with the **Philippines maritime flag administration**. Seeking RO status from key maritime flags is part of the IRS' strategy to expand its presence around the world. An office has been established in Manila which will be followed by the deployment of a surveyor at a later stage.

Asia Pacific region has been identified as a key region for



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## MARINE NEWS



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

# Freight rates on Indian trades continue to trend down amid falling demand



"Despite a sharp decline, the rates are still more than 150% greater than they were before the pandemic," said Co-founder of Freightwalla.

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Container lines operating to/from India continue to see the pressure on freight rates build up as volumes trend down, according to a latest media analysis.

On the westbound India-Europe trade, contract prices from West India [Jawaharlal Nehru Port (JNPT)/Nhava Sheva or Mundra

Port] to Felixstowe/London Gateway (UK) or Rotterdam (the Netherlands) have now slipped to US\$3,500/20-foot container and US\$4,000/40-foot container, down from US\$4,400 and \$4,800, respectively, at the end of September.

For West India-Genoa (the West Mediterranean) cargo, carriers are accepting bookings at US\$3,750/20-foot box and US\$4,100/40-foot box, versus the September averages of US\$4,900 and US\$5,100.

Eastbound cargo rates have also further dropped noticeably – now hovering at US\$1,400/20-foot container and US\$1,500/40-foot container, versus US\$1,525 and US\$1,700 respectively a month earlier, for bookings from Felixstowe/Rotterdam to West India (NhavaSheva/Mundra).

Short-term contract prices offered by major carriers for Indian cargo to the US East Coast (New York) have crashed from the September levels – now averaging at US\$6,350 per 20-foot box, down from US\$7,150, and US\$8,350 per 40-foot box, down from US\$9,050, and at US\$4,500/20-foot container, down from US\$7,050, and US\$6,050/40-foot box, down from US\$8,950, for loads to the US West Coast (Los Angeles). For the West India-US Gulf Coast trade, rates have decreased to US\$6,900 per 20-foot and US\$9,050 per 40-foot container, compared with US\$9,300 and US\$11,650, respectively, in September.

Contract rate levels on the return leg have fallen significantly month on month, with the slide averaging 20% for bookings from

Shanghai/Yantian to West India, the analysis suggests.

"The shipping lines made all the efforts like repositioning empty containers into India and adding additional capacities to help the export trade," said Mr. Sunil Vaswani, Executive Director of the Container Shipping Lines Association (CSLA).

Vaswani went on to say, "The rates have indeed softened but they are neither expected to drop to the pre-pandemic levels nor remain as high as they were during the pandemic. We will, therefore, most likely see some levels in between."

"Despite a sharp decline, the rates are still more than 150% greater than they were before the pandemic," said Mr. Bharat Thanvi, Co-founder of Freightwalla.



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## MARINE NEWS



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

## Petronet LNG to Rent out Storage Tanks at Kochi LNG Terminal



NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

**P**etronet LNG is in talks with many entities including Vitol Group – the world's largest independent oil trading company – and Trafigura Group, the world's second largest oil trader, for renting its

storage tanks for re-export purposes, an official said.

**The capacity utilisation of the Kochi LNG terminal, built with an investment of some Rs4,500 crores and opened in 2013, is only about 16-17 percent, as a lack**

**of pipeline connectivity to Bengaluru, crimped sales.**

Unless the terminal is connected to the national grid, there is no way it can raise capacity utilisation, the official said.

The terminal is currently supplying natural gas to Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd and FACT Ltd in Kochi besides a few small customers in Mangaluru through a pipeline.

The terminal has two storage tanks, each with a capacity to store about 1,60,000 cubic metres of LNG.

**The Kochi terminal is capable of re-exporting**

**LNG unlike other terminals in India** that can only import the cargo and re-gasify it ahead of selling to customers within the country.

Petronet LNG is also weighing plans to offer gassing up and cooling down (GUCD) services to LNG ships.

By offering re-exporting services to oil traders, Petronet LNG reckons that it can boost the capacity utilisation of the Kochi terminal by at least 10-15 percent to 30-35 percent.

"That is why we are putting efforts in this direction," the official said, noting that the company has built the infrastructure to undertake re-gasification,

re-loading, gassing up and cooling down as well as LNG bunkering services.

Petronet LNG has formed a subsidiary – Petronet Energy Ltd – to carry out these activities.

"Now, the situation is completely different, and many parties are showing interest. That's why we are thinking of renting out storage tanks again for better utilisation of the terminal facilities," he added.

The re-export of LNG and gassing up and cooling down services to LNG carriers are expected to bring more ship calls to Cochin Port, where the LNG regasification terminal is located, fetching extra revenue to Cochin Port Authority.



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## MARINE NEWS



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

## Abu Dhabi National Oil Company Invites IPO for Its Logistics Unit



ADNOC exploring options of IPO for its ADNOC L&S

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

“**A**bu Dhabi National Oil Company

(ADNOC) is continuously exploring a number of strategic options, including a potential initial public offering (IPO) of a minority stake, of its Logistics and Shipping unit ADNOC L&S.

State oil firm Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) has invited banks to pitch for roles in an initial public offering of its marine services and logistics unit, two sources with knowledge of the matter said on Thursday.

Reuters reported last year that ADNOC was weighing a potential float of ADNOC Logistics & Services (ADNOC L&S) in 2022.

Banks are pitching for roles this week on the latest IPO of an ADNOC subsidiary, planned for next year, the sources said.

“Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) is continuously exploring a number of strategic options, including a potential initial public

offering (IPO) of a minority stake, of its Logistics and Shipping unit ADNOC L&S. ADNOC will provide further material updates as and when appropriate,” ADNOC said in an emailed statement in response to a Reuters query.

The invitation to banks comes amid an IPO boom in the Gulf, with issuers raising more than \$15 billion in flotations this year, according to Refinitiv data. The region’s IPO

proceeds in the first half of 2022 exceeded European flotations, the data showed, even as global markets remained volatile because of Russia’s invasion of Ukraine.

ADNOC L&S delivers crude oil, refined products, dry bulk and liquefied natural gas from Abu Dhabi to its international customers. It was created in 2016 following a merger between Abu Dhabi National Tanker Co, Petroleum Services Co and Abu Dhabi Petroleum Ports Operating Co.

## World Bank and IAPH Collaborate on Global Port Infrastructure

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

In a recently published report called “Closing the Gaps” the World Bank and the International Association of Ports and Harbours (IAPH) presented a joint action plan to improve the global port infrastructure to better serve shipping companies and other stakeholders.

In particular, they outlined future port infrastructure

challenges and revealed their next steps to address them.

According to World Bank and IAPH, many ports were not prepared for the extreme fluctuations in demand they have suffered since the start of the covid-19 pandemic. **The supply chain crisis was the result of delayed investment** to address three challenges – decarbonisation, digitisation and disruption – which led to a “Grand Entanglement” of interrelated and unconnected problems among supply chain stakeholders.

Addressing digitisation as an area of investment needed to address supply chain problems, the report proposes that, “port authorities have the potential to encourage data collaboration and the potential unification of port stakeholders’ interests to reduce inefficiencies and increase supply chain fluidity.”

Among other action points to encourage greater infrastructure investment, the World Bank will be refreshing its **Port Reform Toolkit**, which aims to provide policymakers



World Bank and IAPH to improve global port infra

and practitioners with effective decision support in undertaking sustainable and well-considered reforms of public institutions that provide and regulate port services in developing countries. IAPH will also be contributing to the new toolset.



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## Headquarters of Ports and Shipping Ministry shifted



Headquarters of Ports and Shipping Ministry, shifted

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

The headquarters of Ports, Shipping and waterways ministry currently housed in Transport bhavan next to the Parliament building in Sansad Marg is being shifted temporarily to a building in Kasturba Gandhi Marg to

make way for construction of individual chambers for 800 members of Parliament on the lines of US congress.

**The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways also situated in the Transport Bhavan will move to the Government of India Press building at Minto Road**, according to local media reports

The Transport Bhavan and Shram Shakti bhavan situated just behind housing various central ministries are to be demolished next month for the purpose.

The Ports ministry will subsequently shift to the Common Central Secretariat buildings being constructed as part of the Central Vista redevelopment project.

The initial plan was to start the shifting process in October, but it could not be done as the two newly constructed buildings at Kasturba Gandhi (KG) Marg could not be completed due to disruption in the supply chain. But the buildings will be ready by November.



## Gas Rich GCC States Are Well Set To Compete in Hydrogen Markets



GCC countries with access to low-cost domestic gas and renewable energy production are well placed to compete in the future blue and green hydrogen markets.

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

However, only green hydrogen will also cut their heavy reliance on hydrocarbons, says Moody's.

While both types of hydrogen, blue and green, will play a role in reducing the global carbon footprint, **only green hydrogen has the potential to reduce GCC countries' reliance on hydrocarbons**, according to ratings agency Moody's Investors Service.

Green and blue hydrogen production could mitigate the negative economic and fiscal impact of lower global oil demand and prices on GCC sovereigns when global carbon transition accelerates. "However, only green hydrogen will also somewhat reduce GCC

countries' heavy reliance on hydrocarbons and as such their underlying credit exposure to longer-term carbon transition risks."

However, the shift will happen only gradually and over several years, it added in a new report.

GCC governments, such as Oman, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE are setting up to produce zero-carbon green hydrogen (from water through electrolysis using renewable energy) and low-carbon blue hydrogen (from natural gas with carbon capture).

However, achieving

large-scale production, especially of green hydrogen, will be challenging in the next few years, the report said.

In the short-to-medium term, their access to cheap domestic natural gas, their carbon capture, and storage (CCS) expertise and at least partially available infrastructure makes blue hydrogen production more likely than the more costly and challenging production of green hydrogen.

**Over the longer term, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE also have the potential to produce and**

**export green hydrogen** given their access to cheap renewable energy production and expertise in water desalination.

"Achieving large-scale green hydrogen production will be challenging. GCC renewable energy projects still face substantial delays in auctioning processes. This will make it harder to generate sufficient renewable energy capacity to support green hydrogen production growth," said Moody's. Moreover, large-scale commercialisation of green hydrogen would also require further significant investment in technology and infrastructure to store and transport hydrogen.

## China Merchants preps car carrier for international market

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

China Merchants Energy Shipping (CMES) is getting ready to enter the international vehicle carrier sector backed by the continuous export growth of domestic carmakers.

The Shanghai-listed energy transport unit

of China Merchants Group has completed modifications to its 2009-built 4,900 ceu vessel, **Chang Tai Hong**. The process was approved by the China Classification Society and the company is expecting additional certificates to officially put the ship into foreign trade operation.



CMES getting ready to enter intl vehicle carrier sector

"At present, the total export volume of China's

automobiles has surpassed that of Germany, becoming the second in the world," CMES said, adding that with the rapid growth of demand, companies have been struggling to book additional tonnage.

**CMES said it has penned long-term contracts with several first-tier manufacturers**

at home and abroad with plans to invest in more capacity and upgrade some other existing roros suitable for ocean transport.

The Croatian-built Chang Tai Hong is the largest ship CMES' subsidiary, CSC Roro Logistics, currently owns. It also has 10 small and mid-sized ships for domestic trade, ranging from 910 ceu to 3,919 ceu, according to VesselsValue data.

## PORT NEWS

TIRUVANANTHAPURAM  
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

The coastal protest that stalled the construction of the Vizhinjam International Transshipment Deepwater Multipurpose Seaport, will enter its 100th day on October 27th. **The protest began on July 20 in front of the secretariat and later shifted to Mulloor, the main entrance to the port is located, on August 16.**

Since then work on the port construction had come to a standstill. Adani group which owns the port

## Protests against Vizhinjam Port enters the 100th day

approached the Kerala High court for police protection. Court also ordered protection but the Kerala government appears to be wary of estranging a powerful vote bank.

The protest has sharply divided public opinion and posed a challenge to the government. Even when Ports Minister Ahammad Devarkovil expressed the hope of commissioning the port by next Onam, there is less clarity on the protest coming to an end anytime soon.

**The state government has declined the demand for halting the project**

to study its impact on the nearby coast. Yet, the protestors led by the Latin archdiocese of Thiruvananthapuram have no plans of vacating the protest site. They are now openly speaking of stopping the port work.

On October 27th, the Latin Church plans to strengthen the stir by holding protests in the land and the sea. They have chosen Vizhinjam and Mulloor for the land protest during the day. At the same time, the fishermen will enter the sea at Muthalappozhi, located 40km away from the port,

to protest. Addressing the issues concerning the Muthalappozhiharbour is one of the seven demands raised by the protestors before the government. The fishermen community blamed the unscientific construction of Muthalappozhi harbor for the rise in sea accidents. Muthalappozhi is also a strategic location for carrying construction materials for the port, by sea.

Thiruvananthapuram Latin archdiocese vicar-general and protest general convenor Eugene H Pereira said **the coastal people had no other option but**

**to fight for their survival.** "We have revived our protest after the pandemic. We demanded that the Port project should be stopped because it is going to be an ecological and economic disaster. Several independent agencies have already stated that the project is unviable and would spell doom for the coastal folks," he said.

**The Church has been mobilizing protests** through the parishes under it. members to strengthen the protest, during the Mass last Sunday. Their road blockades disrupted the traffic movement in the city and resulted in people missing their flights on October 17,

## SHIPPING (REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL)



A sailing ship is no democracy; you don't caucus a crew as to where you'll go anymore than you inquire when they'd like to shorten sail. - Sterling Hayden

## Hospital Ship USNS Comfort Departs on Humanitarian Mission



US Navy photo

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The U.S. Navy hospital ship USNS Comfort has departed on its first humanitarian aid mission since completing a regular overhaul and drydocking period earlier this year.

The USNS Comfort (T-AH 20) departed

Naval Station Norfolk on October 19th in support of the Continuing Promise mission. After a brief stop at Port of Miami over the weekend, the ship has now set sail to Latin America and the Caribbean where it will take part in the humanitarian assistance, readiness building and goodwill mission. The first stop will be Guatemala and Honduras before sailing onto the other countries of Dominican Republic, Colombia, and Haiti.

The deployment comes following a months-long overhaul and drydocking period

at the Alabama Shipyard in Mobile, Alabama, where it arrived on "Fat Tuesday", which was March 1, 2022.

Throughout its two-month deployment, a crew of about 1,000 military and civilian personnel will work alongside a variety of governmental agencies to provide medical assistance to communities.

The majority of these patients will be treated at the ship's land-based medical sites, while select patients may be chosen for the hospital ship's onboard surgical services.

Since its inception in 2007, the Continuing

Promise mission has treated more than 580,000 patients overall while the USNS Comfort alone has treated almost half a million patients and conducted over 7000 surgeries. The crew for this year's mission will look to add to that total as the ship embarks on its eighth mission.

"In the midst of this sea of challenges, the Comfort sails as a symbol of the unshakeable bonds between the people of the United States and the people of Latin America and the Caribbean," added Richardson. "The ship and

its crew will extend an outstretched hand. They give hope. Wherever she goes, she carries with her our enduring promise, and all that it signifies."

"I'm excited to work with such an enthusiastic and professional medical team," said Capt. Kathryn Elliott, commanding officer of USNS Comfort. "This is the Comfort's seventh deployment in support of Continuing Promise, and we couldn't be more thrilled to work with our partner nations, exchange knowledge, and provide assistance to those in need, furthering the lasting legacy of the Continuing Promise mission."

## MARINE NEWS

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

China does not have any strategic rivalry with India and does not want to see a 'heavily armed' Bay of Bengal, the country's top diplomat in Bangladesh Li Jiming said.

He is a big fan of India, personally, and he thinks India and China can work together closely to solve economic and geopolitical issues the envoy said in Dhaka.

## China does not favor heavily armed Bay of Bengal

The comments came as external affairs minister S Jaishankar made a strong comment on the India-China relationship to China's outgoing ambassador to India Sun Weidong when the latter made a farewell call on Jaishankar at South Block.

Chinese envoy in Bangladesh Li Jiming said **China does not see India as a strategic rival or competition.** "We never view India as a strategic

rival or strategic competitor of China," ambassador Li said during an interaction. "Personally, I'm a big fan of India. We can work together more closely to solve economic and geopolitical issues," he said.

In his farewell remarks Chinese ambassador to India Sun Weidong said it is only natural for India and China to have differences and they should seek common ground and not allow their relationship to be defined by disagreements.

There is enough room in the world for China and India to develop together, Sun said. "...the two sides should strive to manage and resolve differences, and look for a proper solution through dialogue and consultation, instead of defining China-India relations by differences.

**The two countries need to respect each other's political systems** and development paths, and uphold the principle of



China's outgoing ambassador to India Sun Weidong

non-interference in each other's internal affairs," he said.

Mr. Jaishankar said the normalization of India-China relations is in the interest of both countries and the region.

## 2 more beaches in Lakshadweep get the coveted blue flag eco label

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

The globally recognized and the coveted International eco-label "Blue Flag", has been accorded to two new beaches – Minicoy Thundi Beach and Kadmat Beach- both in Lakshadweep. This takes the number of beaches certified under the Blue Flag certification in Indian coasts to 12. This is yet another recognition of India's commitment to protect and conserve the pristine coastal and Marine ecosystems through holistic management of the resources,

Announcing this proud moment in a twitter message, **Minister for Environment, Bhupender Yadav expressed happiness and congratulated everyone stating that it is a part of India's relentless journey towards building a sustainable environment.**



Kadmat Beach

**The Thundi Beach** is one of the most pristine and picturesque beaches in the Lakshadweep archipelago where white sand is lined by turquoise blue water of the lagoon. It is a paradise for swimmers and tourists alike. The Kadmat Beach is especially popular with cruise tourists who visit the island for water sports. It is a paradise for nature lovers with its pearl white sand, blue lagoon waters, its moderate climate and friendly locals. Both the beaches have designated staff for beach cleanliness and maintenance; and

for safety and security of swimmers. Both the beaches comply with all the 33 criteria as mandated by the Foundation for Environment Education. .

**The other Indian beaches in the blue list** are Shivrajpur-Gujarat, Ghoghla-Diu, Kasarkod and Padubidri-Karnataka, Kappad-Kerala, Rushikonda-Andhra Pradesh, Golden-Odisha, Radhanagar- Andaman and Nicobar, Kovalam in Tamil Nadu and Eden in Puducherry .

Foundation for Environment Education in Denmark (FEE) accords the globally recognized eco-label - Blue Flag certification.

# CONTAINER TERMINAL NEWS



"Worrying will never change the outcome"

## DP World Surpasses 59 Million TEUs in 9M2022

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The UAE-based port operator reported 20.1 million TEUs in the third quarter of 2022, which translates to a 1.5% year-on-year growth. The box volumes in the third quarter were mainly driven by

Asia Pacific, Middle East & Africa, Americas, and Australia, according to DP World, which said that its flagship terminal in Jebel Ali, UAE handled 3.5 million TEUs in that period. Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, chairman and CEO of DP World,

commented, "As expected, growth rates have decelerated due to the more challenging market conditions, but global trade continues to remain resilient, and our portfolio is expected to continue to outperform the market." He went on to add, "Looking



We remain positive on the medium to long term outlook for global trade says Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, chairman and CEO of DP World

ahead, the near-term outlook remains uncertain given the geopolitical environment, inflationary pressures and currency fluctuations but we remain positive on the medium to long term outlook for global trade. Overall, given the solid nine-month volume performance, we expect to deliver an improved set of full year results."

## Maersk and MSC gear up for Abidjan terminal launch



Abidjan terminal

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Final preparations are underway for the operational and commercial launch of the Cote

d'Ivoire container terminal (CIT) in the Port of Abidjan next month.

A.P. Moller-Maersk's 2,096 teu Safmarine Cameroun recently made its first call at the terminal, operated by a joint venture between Maersk's APM Terminals and Mediterranean Shipping Co (MSC)'s Bolloré Ports.

The test call follows the successful testing of the terminal's equipment earlier this month, which also included the first test port call by the 1,879 teu MSC Floriana.

"The test call went extremely well and we are positively

encouraged for the terminal to get into full operation in November – meeting our expectations and needs for efficient, safe and convenient operations for our vessels calling Abidjan," said Amdi Krogh, head of operations for Africa.

CIT is Abidjan's second container terminal and is said to hold a central place in the sub regional trade. Bolloré, acquired earlier this year by MSC, and APM Terminals invested more than \$400m in its development. It will be labeled as a "green terminal" by Bureau Veritas and be capable of handling more than 1.5m teu per year, accommodating

vessels with a draught of 16 m along its 1,100 m of quays. 450 direct jobs will be secured, and thousands of indirect jobs. At the end of the 20-year concession, the assets will be returned to Port Autonome Abidjan.

"We are pleased to have been able to successfully carry out the various tests of our entire operational system, both on the equipment and on the activities of our teams. This performance gives us complete confidence in the implementation of our operational system and also reassures us about the ability of our teams to welcome and handle all ships that will call at our quay," remarked Koen De Backker, managing director of CIT.

## MINISTRY NEWS

## Department of Water Resources Generates Nearly 15 Lakh Revenue & Frees up 61,292 Sq. Ft. Area



NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

A Special Campaign 2.0 has been launched by the Union Government on 2nd October which will go on till 31st October, 2022 under which all ministries/departments are focusing on Swachhata, promoting cleanliness, good governance & ease of living while reducing compliance burden and pendency in Government. The Special Campaign

2.0 draws inspiration from Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi's vision and mission to institutionalize Swachhata and minimize pendency in Government.

Under the "Special Campaign 2.0", activities relating to cleanliness, review & simplification of rules & procedures, review of record management system, productive use of space and disposal of waste materials enhancing work place experience are being undertaken at all the departments and Ministries. Till 25th October, 2022, the status of progress of review of files, weeding out of old files, revenue generation and spaces freed is as follows-

Objective (As on 25.10.2022)	Targets	Achievements
Files Reviewed	39563	49260
Files Weeded Out	8119	18703
Revenue Generated	Rs. 56,19,917	Rs. 14,98,784
Spaces Freed (Sqft)	17083	61292

The campaign has received tremendous enthusiasm from all Ministries/ Departments of Government of India and their attached and

subordinate offices. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in a tweet had said "such efforts are not only innovative and

commendable but most importantly remind us of our basic civic duty of keeping our surroundings and public places clean."

## PORTS (REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL)

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

# Singapore Port operating at 85 per cent capacity during recession



Singapore's Tuas Port

SINGAPORE  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Singapore's ports are currently operating at about 85 per cent of their combined maximum handling capacity, enough to meet any short-term increases in demand

by shipping lines, said Senior Minister of State for Transport Chee Hong Tat was quoted by Strait Times..

The ports' capacity will increase as more berths open in Tuas Port, he said, noting that Singapore handled a record high container throughput of 37.5 million twenty-foot TEUs, in 2021.

Mr Chee was responding to concerns about Singapore's ability to cope with a normalization of global supply chains. He asked if there was a need to ensure the ports could

handle more containers as soon as 2023.

Singapore's current maximum handling capacity per annum is 44 million TEUs, a unit of measurement that matches the standard dimensions of a container.

**Mr Chee said the opening of two berths at Tuas Port in 2021 helped Singapore to cope with unexpected container volumes, and garnered the country a reputation as a port for shipping lines to catch up on their connections.**

"While some of the factors may point towards increases in freight volumes, there are also other factors that point in the opposite direction," Mr Chee said, citing manufacturing as one sector that is slowing down because of "what's happening in different parts of the world".

Shipping volumes had increased during the pandemic, putting pressure on shipping lines and raising shipping rates. Lockdown measures led to increased demand for manufactured consumer goods, which were mostly moved in shipping containers.

Mr Chee said Singapore's ports have also used technology, such as driverless vehicles and automated cranes, to make more efficient use of manpower. He added it is vital that employers, unions and the Government partner one another to maintain the port's competitiveness.

Singapore's handling capacity is expected to increase by the 2040s, going up to 65 million TEUs when Tuas Port is fully operational. Experts have said this matches what Singapore should need in 20 years, and that the phased opening of the port also gives the Government more flexibility to meet changes in demand.

# Saudi Arabia draws India's Mundra Port into a larger Gulf network

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

India's Mundra Port is set to connect with a large network of Gulf ports with Saudi Arabia as the hub.

Mundra Port, India's top container gateway, will connect King Abdulaziz Port in Damman. Every fortnight the vessel "Green Ace," with a carrying capacity of

1,740 TEUs will sail not only to Damman in Saudi Arabia's Eastern Province, but also to other Gulf ports—Jebel Ali (UAE), Khalifa Bin Salman (Bahrain), Hamad (Qatar).

The new service, branded as the Gulf-India Express 2 (GIX2) launched by Dubai based operator Aladin.

It complements the GIX loop that Aladin Express began in April,



The new service, branded as the Gulf-India Express 2 (GIX2) launched by Dubai based operator Aladin.

linking Mundra to Sohar, Jebel Ali, Ajman and Ras Al Khaimah.

The port of Mundra has seen strong growth, powered by significant capacity expansion and aggressive carrier relationship strategies undertaken by the port owner Adani Group.

Mundra is located on the north shores of the Gulf of Kutch in Gujarat. It is the largest private port and the largest container port in India, equipped to handle dry cargo, liquid cargo, crude cargo, and containers.

# Chinese Shipping firm takes stakes in Hamburg Port

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

The German Government has sent an olive branch to Beijing's communist regime by allowing a state owned Chinese shipping firm COSCO to acquire 24.9 per cent stakes in a container terminal at Hamburg port.

Berlin's government has allowed a Chinese firm to take a smaller-than-planned stake in a Hamburg port, after Chancellor Olaf Scholz resisted calls to ban the controversial sale outright.

Under the compromise



Port of Hamburg

reached by Scholz's cabinet, Chinese shipping giant Cosco will be allowed to buy a stake "below 25 percent" in a container terminal owned by HHLA, the economy ministry said

in a statement. "The reason for the partial prohibition is the existence of a threat to public order and safety."

China's state-owned Cosco had initially sought a 35-percent stake

The agreement to settle for allowing a reduced stake of 24.9 percent, thereby depriving Cosco of voting rights, "reduces the acquisition to a purely financial participation", the economy ministry said.

But the face-saving compromise failed to silence some critics in German establishment.

The fate of the Tollerort terminal at Hamburg's port -- Europe's third busiest -- has sparked a fierce row in Scholz's coalition government, amid growing concern about critical infrastructure falling into foreign hands. Mr.Scholz, a former

Hamburg mayor, had supported the sale and has repeatedly stressed the importance of strong trade ties with China even as Six German ministries, including those of economy, defense and foreign affairs, had opposed the Cosco sale.

Beijing meanwhile welcomed the deal's sign off and accused critics of "hying up" the acquisition. "Cooperation is mutually beneficial. We hope the relevant parties will view pragmatic cooperation between China and Germany rationally and stop baselessly hying it up," said foreign ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin.



# US Dockworker Union Deal Will Take Months Says Seroka



U.S. Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh and executive director of Port L.A. Gene Seroka, meet in LA to discuss union labor deal (Image via Port of LA)

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

A labor deal between 22,000 dockworkers at US West Coast ports and their employers may take several months to reach, but service disruptions while negotiations continue are unlikely, according to

the chief of the Port of Los Angeles.

"It's not going to get solved in the next few weeks — it will probably take some several months and **there is no hard deadline on this,**" Executive Director Gene Seroka, whose port is the nation's busiest, said in an

interview at Bloomberg's New York headquarters Monday. He added that his view doesn't represent those of employers or the union negotiating on behalf of the workers.

The International Longshore and Warehouse Union and the more than 70 employers represented by the Pacific Maritime Association began negotiating a new contract for 22,000 West Coast dockworkers in May, and have continued to do so after their previous deal expired July 1.

**The parties have said they're committed to avoiding a repeat of the nine months of disruptions and shipping delays** that ensued when they last negotiated a full contract in 2014 and 2015. Those snarls only ended after

the Obama administration intervened.

Seroka said he isn't worried about the chance the parties will fail to reach a deal. "I think the probability of work disruption is extremely low," he said.

The talks take place as the world's 11 biggest container lines are on course to post \$256 billion in profit in 2022, which would exceed last year's record by 73%, according to industry veteran John McCown, the founder of Blue Alpha Capital. Logistics and labor strains that are squeezing capacity amid sustained US demand for imports have buoyed the windfall.

**"These dockworkers have real issues on the table and worked through the pandemic like many**

others did," Seroka said. "The industry has made a tremendous amount of money over the last three years — that money should be shared."

He said worker protections need to be put in place based on lessons from the pandemic, and that automation and robotics on the ports — which will keep being rolled out — are polarizing industrial-relations issues.

**"We've got to give people confidence that their cargo is not going to get snarled up,** and they will have some consistency in their supply chain," the LA port chief said. "I'd love to see this contract done," he said, adding, "I get no satisfaction whatsoever by seeing ships and anchor in Houston and Charleston, in New York, because that's making our country less competitive economically."

## TRADE BODY NEWS

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

**The Associated Chambers of Commerce & Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) is the country's oldest apex chamber.** It brings in actionable insights to strengthen the Indian ecosystem, leveraging its network of more than 4,50,000 members, of which MSMEs represent a large segment. With a strong presence in states, and key cities globally, ASSOCHAM also has more than 400 associations, federations and regional chambers in its fold.

**Aligned with the vision of creating a New India, ASSOCHAM works as a conduit between the industry and the**

## ASSOCHAM

**Government.** The Chamber is an agile and forwardlooking institution, leading various initiatives to enhance the global competitiveness of the Indian industry, while strengthening the domestic ecosystem.

**With more than 100 national and regional sector councils, ASSOCHAM is an impactful representative of the Indian industry.** These Councils are led by wellknown industry leaders, academicians, economists and independent professionals. The Chamber focuses on aligning critical needs and interests of the industry with the growth aspirations of the nation.

ASSOCHAM is driving four



strategic priorities - Sustainability, Empowerment, Entrepreneurship and Digitisation. The Chamber believes that affirmative action in these areas would help drive an inclusive and sustainable socio-economic growth for the country.

ASSOCHAM is working hand in hand with the government, regulators and national and international think tanks to contribute to the policy making process and share vital feedback on implementation of decisions of far-reaching consequences. In line with its focus on being future-ready,

the Chamber is building a strong network of knowledge architects. Thus, ASSOCHAM is all set to redefine the dynamics of growth and development in the technology-driven 'Knowledge-Based Economy. The Chamber aims to empower stakeholders in the Indian economy by inculcating knowledge that will be the catalyst of growth in the dynamic global environment.

**The Chamber also supports civil society through citizenship programmes,** to drive inclusive development. ASSOCHAM's member network leads initiatives in various segments such as empowerment, healthcare, education and skilling, hygiene, affirmative action, road safety, livelihood, life skills, sustainability, to name a few.

## EXIM NEWS

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

**Credit and Finance for MSMEs:** The central government has soft launched a new credit

# Govt comes up with new collateral-free loan scheme for rural women entrepreneurs: Report

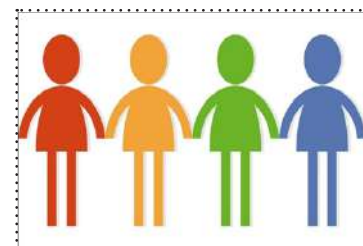
scheme for women in rural areas to boost creation of new enterprises and jobs in villages, as per a report by

the Hindustan Times, citing officials.

The scheme on enterprise financing will

allow individual members of a self-help group (SHG) to secure bank credit.

As of now, SHG



members can avail credit only as groups.

## LOGISTICS (ROAD/RAIL/AVIATION)

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

### DP World reports 2.5% like-for-like volume growth



Growth in 3Q 2022 was primarily driven by a solid performance across our Asia Pacific, Americas and Australia terminals.

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

**D**P World Limited handled 59.6 million TEU (twenty-foot equivalent units) across its

global portfolio of container terminals in 9M2022, with gross container volumes increasing by 2.0% year-on-year on a reported basis and up 2.5% on a like-for-like basis[1]. On a 3Q2022 basis, DP World handled 20.1 million TEU, up 1.5% year-on-year and up 2.1% on a like-for-like basis.

3Q2022 gross volume growth was mainly driven by Asia Pacific, Middle East & Africa, Americas, and Australia with a strong performance from Qingdao (China), ATI (Philippines), LCIT (Thailand), Jeddah

(Saudi Arabia), Vancouver (Canada), Posorja (Ecuador), Santos (Brazil), and Australia. Jebel Ali (UAE) handled 3.5 million TEU in 3Q2022, up 2.0% year-on-year.

At a consolidated level, our terminals handled 34.6 million TEU, up 1.9% year-on-year and up 1.4% on a like-for-like-basis in 9M2022. On a 3Q2022 consolidated level, we handled 11.7 million TEU, increasing 2.7% on a reported basis and 1.5% year-on-year on a like-for-like basis.

**Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, Group Chairman and CEO of DP World** commented: "We report another robust set of throughput figures with nine-month volume growth of 2.5%, which is once again ahead of industry growth of 1.1%[4]. As expected, growth rates have decelerated due to the more challenging market conditions, but **global trade continues to remain resilient, and our portfolio is expected to continue to outperform the market.**

"Growth in the third quarter was primarily driven by a solid performance

across our Asia Pacific, Americas and Australia terminals. Encouragingly, our flagship port of Jebel Ali (UAE) continues to deliver robust volumes with growth of 2.0% year-on-year.

"Looking ahead, the near-term outlook remains uncertain given the geopolitical environment, inflationary pressures and currency fluctuations but we remain positive on the medium to long term outlook for global trade. **Overall, given the solid nine-month volume performance, we expect to deliver an improved set of full year results."**

### Southern Railways does well in freight too

CHENNAI  
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

**S**outhern Railway for long dubbed as passenger railway has handled nearly twenty million tons of freight during the first half of the current financial year earning a revenue of nearly Rs 1800 crores.

**The railway has set a target of achieving a turnover of 36 million tons during the current**

**financial year 2022-23** according to railway sources quoted by local media reports.

While no major step has been taken to run vande bharaat trains in Chennai-Mysuru section to its full capacity, the speed of freight trains has been increased to a whopping 50 kilometers per hour. In other parts of the railway, the average speed of super fast trains continue to hover around 70 kilometers

per hour since the tracks are yet to be strengthened and signaling modernized.

**The speed of freight trains originating from Chennai and Kamarajar ports has improved considerably** since the commissioning of the third and fourth line between Chennai Beach and Atipattu.

About 85 per cent of the broad gauge lines in the railway have been electrified. The latest sections to be electrified include Dindigul-Palni, Nagapattinam-Velankani,



**The speed of the freight train has improved.**

Pollachi-Podanur and Madurai-Manamadurai.

### Work on Mumbai Bengaluru expressway to begin in 2 months

MUMBAI  
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

**W**ork on the Bengaluru Mumbai Eight lane state of the art Expressway is expected to commence in the next two months according to local media reports.

**The preliminary survey for the expressway**



**Work on Mumbai Bengaluru expressway to begin in 2 months**

**has been completed** and the National Highways Authority of India is currently preparing the detailed project report. The final proposal is expected to be cleared in December after which land acquisition and construction work will begin

The expressway is expected to be commissioned by 2028. The expressway covers 12 districts including nine in Karnataka and three in Maharashtra. The include Bengaluru rural, Belgavi, Bagalkot, Gadag, Koppal, Bellary, Davanagere,

Chitradurga, Tumakuru, Pune, Satara and Sangli

**The green field expressway will bring down the distance between Bengaluru and Pune to 700 kilometers**

The corridor starts from Kanjale on the proposed Pune Ring road and ends at Muthagadahalli on the proposed Satellite Ring Road in Bangalore Metropolitan Region,

The project is likely to boost trade as decongestion will invite commercial establishments on the highway. It is also set to host abundant infrastructures such as 55 flyovers, tree plantation on both sides of the expressway, and a 15-metre median for prospective widening in the future.

### MARINE NEWS

### Govt appoints Sangeeta Verma as acting chairperson of CCI

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

**V**erma is currently a member at the regulator. Her appointment will be effective from Wednesday for a "period of three months or till



**Sangeeta Verma, acting chairperson of CCI**

appointment of regular Chairperson or till any further orders, whichever is the earliest," according to an official order.

The government on Tuesday 25 Oct appointed Sangeeta Verma as the acting chairperson of the Competition Commission of India (CCI).

The appointment follows full-time Chairperson Ashok Kumar Gupta demitting office on Tuesday.

# LOGISTICS (ROAD/RAIL/AVIATION)



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

## Goods Transit Period Improves through Railways



Railways transit

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

More industries are planning to use the railways to transport

freight, according to a new survey.

The Railway Freight Activity Optimism Index (RFAOI) for the third quarter of the year stands at 67, which is four points higher than the second quarter of 2022.

The RFAOI, which is a pan-India survey of rail freight users (industry and service providers) to gauge their optimism levels for rail freight activity in the forthcoming

quarter, is compiled by Dun & Bradstreet in collaboration with Jupiter Group.

This indicates high optimism level of user industries and service providers, towards transporting goods through railways, said a statement.

### The most optimistic regions

“Highest level of optimism is towards loading and unloading of

goods (optimism index at 73),” it said, adding that businesses in the Eastern and Southern regions are the most optimistic with overall optimism index at 70 each.

Large businesses continue to be most optimistic towards volume improvement in domestic and export trade, it further said.

“Stable demand conditions and improved business continuity are leading to improvement in the logistics sector

with railway freight, port traffic and air traffic picking up pace in India,” said Arun Singh, Global Chief Economist, Dun & Bradstreet.

Vivek Lohia, Director, Jupiter Wagons, said the survey reveals that more than 50 per cent of businesses who transport 26-75 per cent of their goods through railways intend to increase their share of goods transported through railways. **Amongst other factors, connectivity and transit time are key to realise this,** he said.

## Apple Urges Global Supply Chain to Decarbonise By 2030



NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Apple on Tuesday 25 Oct exhorted its global supply chain to decarbonise by 2030, as the tech giant said it will evaluate the work of its major manufacturing partners to decarbonise their Apple-related operations, and track annual progress.

Cupertino, California-headquartered Apple has been carbon neutral for its global corporate operations since 2020, and is focused on the goal to become carbon neutral across its entire global supply chain and the life cycle of every product, the company said in a newsroom post.

“Apple calls on global supply chain to decarbonise by 2030,” the post said.

The company is accelerating work with suppliers to decarbonise Apple-related

production and expanding investments in clean energy and climate solutions.

Apple “will evaluate the work of its major manufacturing partners to decarbonise their Apple-related operations — including running on 100 per cent renewable electricity — and will track yearly progress”.

As the impacts of climate change are increasingly felt, Apple also announced new initiatives and investments aimed at helping decarbonise the global economy and promote climate solutions for communities.

These include investments in renewable energy in Europe, partnerships to support businesses transitioning to clean energy, and new support for projects that advance natural carbon removal and community-driven climate solutions.

As part of the supplier engagement, the company is partnering with its worldwide supply chain to urge accelerated action to achieve carbon neutrality for their Apple-related corporate operations.

**Apple will partner with suppliers that are working with urgency and making measurable progress toward decarbonisation.**

### 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.porttoport.in](http://www.porttoport.in) and click the tool vessel position / Ports and terminal.



WEST COAST	
AMCT	- Adani Mundra Container Terminal
AICTPL	- Adani International Container Terminal Pvt. Ltd.
MICT	- Mundra International Container Terminal
ACMTPL	- Adani CMA Mundra Terminal Pvt. Ltd.
KICT	- Kandla International Container Terminal
NSICT	- Nhavasheva International Container Terminal
NSIGT	- Nhavasheva International Gateway Terminal
JNPCT	- Jawaharlal Nehru Port Container Terminal
GTI	- Gateway Terminals India
BMCT	- Bharat Mumbai Container Terminals
ICTT	- International Container Transshipment Terminal

EAST COAST	
VCTPL	- Visakha Container Terminal Pvt. Ltd.
KPCT	- Krishnapatnam Port Container Terminal
CCT	- Chennai Container Terminal Pvt. Ltd
CITPL	- PSA's Chennai International Terminals Pvt Ltd
KICT	- Kattupalli International Container Terminal
DBGT	- Dakshin Bharat Gateway Terminal Pvt. Ltd.
PSA SICAL	- PSA SICAL Terminals Limited



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

## EXIM TREND

# Govt to develop 50 districts as Export Hubs



NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

**W**ith exports facing global headwinds, the Union Budget is likely to announce a ₹2,500 crore scheme to develop 50 districts as export hubs.

The programme will help domestic producers in these districts to scale up manufacturing and find potential buyers outside India.

Under the proposed scheme, the government will select 50 districts through a challenge, and they will receive ₹50 crore each. The districts will be assessed on parameters such as plans for exports, efforts to plug infrastructure and

logistics gaps, and cluster approach to exports.

As it will be a centrally sponsored scheme, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) has proposed that the Centre pays 60% of the estimated cost, with the rest borne by the respective states.

**This means that the Centre will likely allocate Rs.1,500 crore for the programme.**

"District as Exports Hub

will likely be a centrally sponsored scheme and may come up in the budget... if not before. These districts will be selected under the challenge route, and scores will be assigned based on parameters related to their preparedness...we will invite applications, and they will be evaluated," said a senior government official.

The Centre will receive applications from the states, and evaluation and scoring will be done by a technical advisory agency.

Only those districts having a robust plan will make it to the list.

The scheme was initially proposed as a ₹10,000 crore scheme, covering 200 districts.

After the department of commerce prepares a cabinet note for the 'districts as export hubs' plan, it will be taken for Cabinet approval.

This comes as the government is looking at ways to boost exports amid declining global demand.

Exports growth slowed to a 19-month low in September at 4.8%.

# India aims for 10% share in global exports by 2047

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

**I**ndia aims to raise the share of its exports in global trade to 3% by 2027 and 10% by 2047 from the current 2.1%, promoting hundred Indian brands as global champions.

A Customs 'ONE' will be set up to provide import-export clearance within one hour of arrival at entry points and customs ports to facilitate trade.

These are among the commerce and industry ministry's several India's hundredth year of

independence year goals under the India@2047 umbrella.

It includes setting up economic zones outside India as an extension of the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative.

"The goals for 2047 have been set for international trade and till 2027, the commerce department will work towards laying a strong foundation to achieve these goals," said an official. The plan is to increase the share of exports in the gross domestic product to 25%.

The focus sectors are pharmaceuticals, gems & jewellery,

marine & agriculture, textiles & leather, engineering goods, electronics & telecom products, and chemicals.

**Similarly, there is a blueprint for the services as well.**

"The plan is to become top three in global services trade in tourism, IT & ITeS, business services, financial services, healthcare & wellness, education, and AV services," the official added.

The roadmap also includes branding India as a supplier of high-value and high-growth products, enhancing



India aims to raise the share of its exports in global trade to 3% by 2027 and 10% by 2047

the participation of MSMEs in trade, and attaining a 10% share in niche products called "creative economy".

Branding campaigns would focus on promoting exports of pharmaceuticals, tea, coffee, engineering goods & services, and developing districts as export hubs.

# India's exports to China growing faster than inbound shipments

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

**I**ndia's trade equation with China has been improving in recent years with outbound shipments rising faster than imports, whose growth is being driven largely by vital raw materials and to meet demand from high-growth sectors such as telecom and power, a senior government official said.

China is one of India's large trading partners, with trade flows between the two countries having grown 59% from about \$72 billion in 2014-15, to hit \$115.4 billion in 2021-22.

"Since India-China trade started picking up, the growth in exports to China has been much higher than the import growth," a Commerce Ministry official said.

From \$11.9 billion in 2014-15, India's exports to China had risen 78.1% to \$21.25 billion last year, while imports stood at \$94.16 billion, 55.8% over the \$60.4 billion recorded in 2014-15. By contrast, imports from China had increased 192% between 2006-07 and 2013-14, when they had crossed \$51 billion, he pointed out.



Intermediate goods account for more than a third of India's imports from China, while capital goods constitute another 19.3%, with telecom and power sector equipment being the key

drivers, which helped meet domestic demand in these fast-expanding sectors, the official said.

The major items of import from China are electronic components, computer hardware and

peripherals, telecom instruments, organic chemicals, industrial machinery for dairy, residual chemicals and allied products, electronic instruments, bulk drugs and intermediates.

"India's dependence on such Chinese goods can be attributed largely to the gap between the domestic production and demand, and China being a manufacturing hub and having price competitiveness due to economies of scale and subsidies provided by its government to Chinese industry," the official noted.