




Guiding Spirit to Shipping Industry

# Sagar Sandesh

Maritime Tabloid English Weekly Thrice E - Paper

In association with R L Institute of Nautical Sciences, Madurai, Tamil Nadu. | RNI No. TNENG/2012/41759 | Wednesday, December 28 2022 | Voyage 11 Wave 137

Published &amp; Released on Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday

**PAGE - 3**


JNPA inaugurates MSEDCL Distribution Franchisee



Gross Profit Margin  
Net Profit Margin

**PAGE - 5**


Students Corner - 242 Gross and Net profit

**PAGE - 9**


Egis India and Mongla Port Authority sign agreement to upgrade

**PAGE - 11**

RT-PCR Tests Mandatory for passengers from China....

## Removal of the High-Risk Area (HRA) in the Indian Ocean from 1 January 2023 (update)



INDIAN-OCEAN-HIGH-RISK-AREA-01-JAN-2023

(ICS), BIMCO, International Marine Contractors Association (IMCA), INTERCARGO, INTERTANKO, and Oil Companies International Marine Forum (OCIMF).

Measures enacted to secure the waters by the military, political, civil society, and shipping industry, as well as Best Management Practices guidance, have reduced the threat of piracy in the Indian Ocean.

The removal of the HRA will come into effect at 0001 UTC on 1 January 2023, allowing charterers, shipowners, and operators time to adapt to the changed threat from piracy.

Best Management Practices 5 (BMP5) will continue to provide the necessary guidance for shipping to ensure threat and risk assessments are developed for every voyage to mitigate the risks presented by remaining security threats in the region. The shipping industry will continue to monitor and advise on maritime security threats to assist the safe transit of vessels and the seafarers who crew them. Pre-voyage threat and risk assessments should consider the

latest maritime security information from organisations supporting the VRA.

The area being removed is the "High Risk Area" as shown on UKHO Chart Q6099. The Voluntary Reporting Area (VRA) administered by UKMTO has not changed. Ships entering the VRA are encouraged to report to the UKMTO and register with

the Maritime Security Centre for the Horn of Africa (MSCHOA) in accordance with industry BMP (Best Management Practices).

### The HRA IMO submission co-sponsors commented:

"This announcement is a testament to nearly 15 years

Turn to page -2 >>

After more than a decade of effective threat-reducing counter-piracy operations, the shipping industry has removed the "Indian Ocean High-Risk Area" (HRA).

The removal of the HRA reflects a significantly improved piracy situation in the region, largely due to concerted counter-piracy efforts by many regional and international stakeholders. No piracy attacks against merchant ships have occurred off Somalia since 2018.

The IMO has been informed of the decision made by the International Chamber of Shipping





*Wishing you all success & joy in 2023!*



Best Employer for Container Fleet  
Seajob Indian Anchor Awards- 2022

Eastaway owns a diverse global fleet of 58 container vessels. Eastaway entered into a shipbuilding contract for 29 container ships to be delivered from October 2022 onwards in the next 2 years

Eastaway for Highest Standards of Performance and Cares for Well Being & Skill Growth of Our Seafarers.

**Urgent requirements.**  
2nd Officer, 3rd Officer, 3rd Engineer, and 4th Engineer.  
EL/Off - COC/ Non-COC Holders (Extra Allowance for Crane exp)  
Bosun / Cook (USD1700) AB / Oiler with COP (USD 1400)  
Candidates should have container experience.

**Eastaway (India) Private Limited**  
RPSL: MUM-162104 / DOI: 24 May 2022 / DOE: 24 May 2027  
Address: C- 421/422, Atrium 215, Andheri Kurla Road, Andheri (E), Mumbai- 400 069  
Board line: +91 22 6802 0000 Mobile : +91 99200 75887/ 86579 17013  
Email: seajobs@eastaway.com/ www.eastaway.com

## Removal of the High-Risk..... From Page : 1

reduce the threat of piracy in the Indian Ocean. Through a combination of efforts by military, political, civil society, and the shipping industry over the years, operators and seafarers are now able to operate with increased confidence in these waters.

“Thanks and gratitude is given to all the seafarers and offshore workers who have served during this time in safely maintaining global trade and operations.

“Threat and risk assessments should still be carried out, and best management practices followed to continue to mitigate the risks presented in a changeable and often complex and

potentially threatening environment.”

### GUIDANCE ON THE REMOVAL OF THE HIGH-RISK AREA:

The industry associations responsible for the HRA, plan to provide comprehensive threat guidance in the form of regional threat advisories, reviewed and updated on a periodic basis. Regrettably the first of these advisories will not be produced prior to the removal of the HRA, and as such, the Industry Associations have developed **interim guidance** for owners on the removal of the area and its impact on security, issued on 15 Dec 2022.

## EXIM NEWS

# Customs tweaks notification in furtherance of trade deal with Australia

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

The India-Australia interim trade deal set to kick off later this month, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs has notified the Rules of Origin.

**The notification, which relates to the eligibility requirement to claim the preferential customs duty on trade in goods, under the economic cooperation and trade agreement (ECTA), will come into effect from December 29.** This is when the ECTA will also come into effect.

Record of Advice specify the threshold for value addition in the country concerned to qualify for the tax concessions under the FTA, so that the benefits are not misused by firms based in other countries.

Called the Customs Tariff (Determination of Origin of Goods under the India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement) Rules, 2022, the notification by the CBIC lays out the origin criteria based on which the product would



Trade deal with Australia

be eligible for the preferential customs duty.

**India and Australia had in April this year signed the ECTA, which is expected to cover 90 per cent of the bilateral trade between the two.** India will benefit from preferential market access provided by Australia on 100 per cent of its tariff lines.

**India will be offering preferential access to Australia on over 70 per cent of its tariff lines,** including lines of export interest to Australia which are primarily raw materials and intermediaries such as coal, mineral ores and wines.

**ATPI** MARINE & ENERGY



ATPI Marine & Energy is an international leader in providing travel to the energy and shipping sectors. Offering solutions tailored to offshore organisations, alongside 24/7 expertise and innovative technology, ATPI Marine & Energy operates with cost, efficiency and safety at the forefront of every travel strategy.

Delivering what really matters™

[www.atpi.com](http://www.atpi.com)

## MARINE NEWS



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

## JNPA inaugurates MSEDCL Distribution Franchisee

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), India's best-performing Port, inaugurated the operationalization of the first phase of the MSEDCL distribution..... Franchisee on December 21, 2022, and commissioned Smart Street Lighting System at JNPA township.

Highlighting the importance of the MSEDCL distribution franchisee

at the JNPA, Shri Sanjay Sethi, IAS, Chairman, JNPA, in his address, "JNPA is the first Major Port to become a Distribution Franchisee (DF) through MOU route with state Discom MSEDCL. This is one of the major achievements as it will enable the power consumers in the JNPA DF area to avail power supply from green energy sources."

He added, "The commissioning of the

GSM/RF based remotely controlled dimmable Smart Street Lighting System is a pilot project, which is our green exercise under the ministry's initiative of the Maritime India Vision 2030."

JNPA carried out electrical network modification work as per MSEDCL requirements and installed the smart metering at connection points. It includes BOT Operators and other HT consumers in the JNPA DF area are



The distribution franchisee was inaugurated at the hands of Shri Sanjay Sethi, IAS, Chairman, JNPA, and Shri Unmesh Sharad Wagh, IRS

now direct consumers of MSEDCL.

Also, the commissioning of the Smart Street Lighting System project is energy efficient, which

is proposed to be implemented in other areas of the Port. Such initiatives highlight JNPA's commitment to sustainable development.

## China wants to work with India

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

China is ready to work with India towards achieving "sound growth" of bilateral ties, China's foreign minister Wang Yi said in a year-end review of Beijing's diplomacy in 2022 on December 25th, weeks after Chinese troops attempted to transgress the Line of Actual Control (LAC) at Yangtse in Tawang sector and were

pushed back by Indian soldiers.

China and India have maintained communication through the diplomatic and military - to - military channels, and both countries are committed to upholding stability in the border areas," Wang, who is a member of the Communist party's Politburo and a state councillor, said at a symposium on



China's foreign minister Wang Yi

"International Situation and China's Foreign Relations". Wang's speech at the symposium was released

by the Chinese foreign ministry on Sunday.

"We stand ready to work with India in the direction toward steady and sound growth of China-India relations," he said in a brief mention of the state of India-China ties, which have plunged to their lowest in decades since May 2020.

Indian and Chinese troops clashed as recently as on December 9 in the Tawang sector of Arunachal Pradesh in the eastern sector of the Line

of Actual Control (LAC). "There was hand-to-hand fighting between Chinese and Indian troops on December 9. Indian troops stopped People's Liberation Army troops from entering our territory," defense minister Rajnath Singh told Parliament last week.

Thousands of troops remain deployed on both sides of the LAC, though frontline soldiers have disengaged from most of the friction points that were at the centre of the dispute in 2020.

## EXIM NEWS

### Foreign trade policy extended for 6 months

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

The commerce Ministry has decided to extend the foreign trade policy of the country for a further period of six months with effect from October 1<sup>st</sup> 2022 in deference to the wishes of the EXIM Trade.

The government has received requests from Export Promotion Councils and leading exporters that it should continue with current Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20), which had been extended from time to time.

In recent days, exporters and industry bodies have strongly urged the



Govt requested by the trade to extend foreign trade policy

government that in view of the prevailing, volatile global economic and geopolitical situation, it would be advisable to extend the current policy for some time, and undertake more consultations before coming out with the new policy.

The government has

always involved all stakeholders in formulating policy. In view of this, it has been decided to extend the Foreign Trade Policy 2015-20, valid till Sept 30, 2022 for a further period of six months, with effect from October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.



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

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

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

EDITOR & PUBLISHER : **Dr R Lakshmi pathy**  
EXECUTIVE EDITOR : **Dr G.R. Balakrishnan**, MA Phd.,

**ADVISORY EDITORIAL BOARD**  
**Mr. Ashok C. Advani**,  
Chief Engineer - Advisor (Mumbai) RLINS, Ex General Manager - Pacific International Lines.  
**Capt. S.S. Jairam**,  
Master Mariner, Ex Director - Seearland Management services Pvt Ltd. Ex Chairman - MASSA.  
**Captain S.M. Halbe**,  
Chief Executive Officer - MASSA; Fellow of Nautical Institute, London and CMMI, Ex MD - GEM.  
**Mr. Y. Nath**, PF.I.Mar.E., F.I.E.,  
Chartered Engineer, President, Planmain Quality Consultants ( India ) Pvt. Ltd.

**SAGAR SANDESH - Maritime Tabloid English Weekly Thrice E-Paper**  
Published by Dr R Lakshmi pathy (Owner) on behalf of  
Professional Publications (P) Ltd, "Sriram" , 27, Sathya Sai Nagar, Madurai - 625 003.  
Published at "Lakshmi", 21, Sathya Sai Nagar, Madurai - 625 003, Tamilnadu.  
RNI No. TNENG/2012/41759.

## MARINE NEWS



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

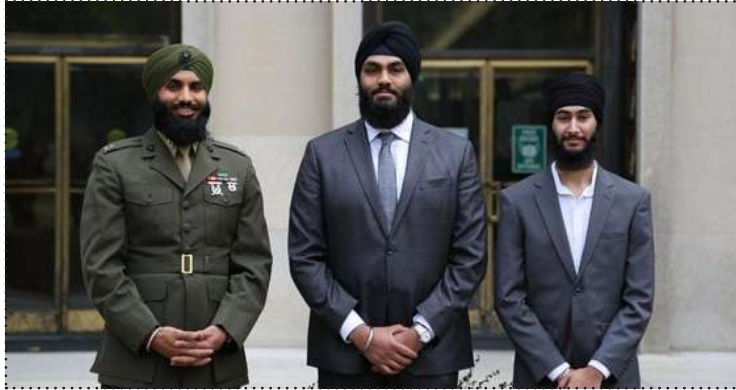
# Marine Corps must allow Sikh recruits with beards and turbans, US court rules

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

A United States court on Friday 23 Dec directed the Marine Corps to let Sikh recruits maintain beards and wear turbans, rejecting the elite unit's argument that allowing religious exemptions would reduce cohesion.

The US Army, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard accommodate the religious requirements of Sikhism. However, the **Marine Corps** told three Sikh men who passed tests to enlist last year that they could serve only if they shaved before going through basic training, American non-profit media organisation NPR reported.

The men, Aekash Singh, Jaskirat Singh and Milaap Singh Chahal, argued that



The plaintiffs in the case. | Eric Baxter via Twitter

wearing articles of faith during basic training and combat is an expression of commitment to their religious faith, according to PTL.

According to the ruling from the District of Columbia's federal appeals court, the Marines argued that the recruits needed to be "stripped of their individuality" for troop uniformity.

"Excepting the plaintiffs from the repeated ritual of shaving their faces and heads alongside fellow recruits, and permitting them to wear a head covering, will impede its compelling interest in forging unit cohesion and a uniform mindset during boot camp," the Marine leadership said.

**The court order, however, said the Marines did not**

**present any argument that "unshorn hair or faith articles will interfere physically with the boot camp training regimen".**

It pointed out that the Marine Corps permit female recruits from shaving and cutting their hair altogether. Tattoos, which the court said are "a quintessential expression of individual identity", are also allowed anywhere on a recruit's body, except for head, neck or hands.

"If the need to develop unit cohesion during recruit training can accommodate some external indicia of individuality, then whatever line is drawn cannot turn on whether those indicia are prevalent in society or instead reflect the faith practice of a

minority," the court said in the order.

Judge Patricia Millett, who was nominated by former president Barack Obama, also said the Marine Corps never explained why it cannot "apply the same or similar [religious] accommodations" that the Army, Navy, and Air Force, and Coast Guard provide during training.

**The plaintiffs, the judge added, "not only have a substantial likelihood of success on the merits - it is difficult to imagine them losing".**

Eric Baxter, who represented the men, said the ruling is a major victory for the Sikhs. "Today's ruling strikes down that rule as a violation of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act," he wrote on Twitter.

# Radiant Maritime India felicitated for stupendous performance in 2022 by Bahri in Dubai

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Bahri Line recently held a Global Agency meet in Dubai to review performance for 2022 and discuss the roadmap for 2023.

Bahri Line announced a strong financial result on the backdrop of buoyant market conditions and healthy freight rates.

During the year 2022, Bahri Line made some changes to the service routing and were able to get on board some key customers, introduce new ports on the service and entered into contractual



Mr. Sreekumar Varma receiving the Award.

agreements for incremental business.

The meeting in Dubai was attended by the Bahri Line management team led by Bahri Line President Eng. Soror Basalom and Line Director Mr. Rajith Aykkara along with the presence of senior

representative from Bahri global office and the Bahri Line agencies Worldwide.

**Mr. Rajith Aykkara announced the launching of the Europe - Asia pendulum service from January 2023** and mentioned that Bahri Line was expanding their

services to cater to customer demands. He thanked the entire Bahri team for a robust performance and mentioned that Bahri Line management expects a lot more in 2023 from the team with the addition of services.

During the discussion, the 2022 results were reviewed by the Bahri Management and Radiant Maritime India Pvt Ltd was the best performing agent globally next only to the US Bahri office.

Radiant Maritime India Pvt Ltd was felicitated with an award for appreciation for the stupendous performance in 2022.

**Radiant Maritime India Pvt Ltd (RMIPL) are the Pan India agents for Bahri Line in India and were awarded the agency by Bahri Line in 2020 during the challenging times of COVID lockdown.** RMIPL have not only lived upto the challenges but excelled in servicing the principals during this period. ...RMIPL with its pan India presence is a premier shipping agency house with the expertise to handle ships at all the ports in India.

Radiant has very experienced Management team having professionals with decades of experience.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

(To Read Full News Please go to [www.sagarsandesh.in](http://www.sagarsandesh.in))

### Update on railway electrification

Five zonal railways - North Central, Western central, East Coast, South Eastern, 1 and Eastern have been 100 per cent electrified. Besides, Uttarakhand state has been completely electrified according to railway data



### Product Tanker Sinks in Bangladesh's Meghna River, Spilling Fuel

A tanker full of diesel has gone down in Bangladesh's Meghna river after colliding with another vessel, spilling a large quantity of fuel, according to local media.





## Students Corner - 242

### Gross and Net profit

We saw in our last session what is gross profit; that is, the money left with you after deducting the cost of the total manufacturing process from the total revenue of the sale of the products.

Of course, this step of arriving at Gross profit is important because without knowing the gross profit, you cannot arrive at the exact net profit; both gross and net profit are inter-dependent. Both kinds of profit have their own benefits to the trade.

Gross profit indicates the company is earning profit; it means over-all commercial activities are effective; in other words, the company has acquired a place in the market; it has customers to its products. Net profit tells you how efficient you are in the business; that is, it helps you assess your performance, thereby reveals to

Gross Profit Margin	Net Profit Margin
---------------------	-------------------

you the scope of improvement. If you improve performance of the company, it will reflect in the increase of the gross profit as it is said year-on-year basis.

Improving the performance of the company must be the aim of all the departments of the company; in fact, it must be the sole aim of the employees of the company, from the last employee of the company to the owner of the company. You might have heard that the Vision and Mission of the company must penetrate down to all the employees and it must proceed from the President of the company.

It is pointed out by the Management experts that the spirit of the company must be pervasive through the whole team of the company. The inventory manager must see to it that the inventory is commensurate with the immediate need and foreseeable future demand; capital must not be allowed to get stuck in the inventory; too much inventory cuts into the capital and too little

inventory faces the risk of shortage of necessary materials at the very time of the need; both kinds bring ultimately loss to the company. The production manager must be in constant touch with the Marketing personnel so that he is all the time aware of the demand, now and near future; the Purchase personnel must be instructed that they must search out the cheapest supplier but at the same time quality of the materials must not be sacrificed for the sake of the price. This is just to show that the spirit of efficiency is present in all the departments of the company.

And communication is all-important factor in a sustained business enterprise, communication both upwards and downwards must be maintained. In fact,

inter-departmental communication is actually the life-line of an efficient organization. For instance, let us assume the Inventory manager is rather lacking in communication; it will sooner or later, often sooner, affect the performance of the company. Purchase department, if it does not get the details of requirement, it will impact negatively on the production which in turn will damage the supply-chain; that is, the customer of the company will not get what he wants in time in the right quantity. If such instances are repeated, the customer will shift to some other company. A loss of a customer is an expression of, among other things, inefficient organization.

We will move on to Net Profit in our next.

## Drewry: World Container Index down 0.3% last week

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service



Drewry's composite World Container Index decreased by 0.3% to \$2,119.96 per 40ft container in last week.

The composite index decreased by 0.3% this week, the 43rd consecutive weekly decrease, and has dropped by 77% when compared with the same week last year.

The latest Drewry WCI composite index of \$2,120 per 40-foot container is now 80% below the peak of \$10,377 reached in September 2021. It is 21% lower than the 10-year average of \$2,693, indicating a return to more normal prices, but remains 49% higher than average 2019 (pre-pandemic) rates of \$1,420.

The average composite index for the year-to-date is \$6,461 per 40ft container, which is \$3,767 higher than the 10-year average.

The composite index decreased by 0.3% to \$2,119.96 per 40ft container, and is 77% lower than the same week in 2021. Freight rates on Shanghai – New York dropped 2% or \$63 to \$3,889 per feu. Spot rates on Shanghai – Genoa and Los Angeles – Shanghai fell 1% each to \$2,879 and \$1,169 per 40ft box, respectively. Similarly, rates on Rotterdam – Shanghai and Rotterdam – New York slipped 1% each to \$789 and \$6,989 per 40ft container, individually. However, rates on Shanghai – Rotterdam gained 2% or \$32 to \$1,706 per feu. Rates on New York – Rotterdam and Shanghai – Los Angeles hovered around the previous week's level. Drewry expects smaller week-on-week reductions in rates in the next few weeks.

### A Golden Opportunity for Engineering Graduates and Diploma Holders

A rewarding career in the Merchant Navy

ADMISSION  
Open For  
Feb-2023  
-Batch-

#### Graduate Marine Engineering (GME)

Eligibility	: Degree in Mechanical Engineering / Mechanical and Automation / Mechanical and Electronics / Mechanical and Automobile / Marine Engineering / Naval Architecture / Naval Architecture and Ocean Engineering / Naval Architecture and Ship Building
Age Limit	: Maximum 28 years, Medical Fitness as per DGS Norms.
Duration	: 1 year (Fully residential)

#### Electro Technical Officer (ETO)

Eligibility	: Diploma / Degree in Electrical And Electronics Engineering / ECE / ETE / EIE or equivalent.
Age Limit	: Maximum 35 years, Medical Fitness as per DGS Norms.
Duration	: 4 Months (Fully residential)

For Admission Contact : 9894007317 / 7339132159 / 9489007317



**R L INSTITUTE OF NAUTICAL SCIENCES**  
(Approved by Directorate General of Shipping, Ministry of Shipping, Govt. of India) | (Affiliated to Indian Maritime University, Chennai)

T.V.R. Nagar, Aruppukottai Road, Madurai - 625 022.

Ph : 7397788618 e-mail : rlins@rlins.in, admission@rlins.in web : www.rlins.edu.in



## Everything You Need to Know about Shipping's New Carbon Measurement and Rating System

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

**K**nown as the Energy Efficiency Existing Ship Index (EEXI) and Carbon Intensity Indicator (CII), the new reporting mandates will be required under amendments adopted to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) Annex VI that entered into force on 1 November 2022.

**The mandates, which were developed under the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) initial strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from ships, are meant to act as a stimulus for ships to reduce their carbon intensity by 40% by 2030, compared to 2008 levels.** Carbon intensity, in this case, links ship's GHG emissions to the amount of



carbon carried over distance travelled.

Attained EEXI is a ship's energy efficiency compared to a baseline.

"Ships attained EEXI will then be compared to a required Energy Efficiency Existing Ship Index based on an applicable reduction factor expressed as a percentage relative to the Energy Efficiency Design Index (EEDI) baseline. It must be calculated for ships of 400 gt and above, in accordance with the

different values set for ship types and size categories. **The calculated attained EEXI value for each individual ship must be below the required EEXI,** to ensure the ship meets a minimum energy efficiency standard," the IMO explains in a FAQ.

According to the IMO: "The CII determines the annual reduction factor needed to ensure continuous improvement of a ship's operational carbon intensity within a

specific rating level. The actual annual operational CII achieved must be documented and verified against the required annual operational CII. This enables the operational carbon intensity rating to be determined."

Using the CII, a ship's carbon intensity will be rated on a scale from A (the best) to E (the worst).

Ships with a bad CII rating (D or E) could be required to take corrective action... Of course, ships can also run on alternative low-carbon fuel...

**The requirements for EEXI and CII certification come into effect on January 1, 2023...** If you're confused, you're not alone.

The argument is that a ship on longer voyages with full utilization puts out the most absolute

carbon, but will score better (meaning a lower CII) than the same ship employed on shorter trips, or with greater port and waiting times. INTERTANKO, a trade organization representing independent tanker owners, has come to a similar conclusion.

To help address the commercial complexities of the CII regulation, BIMCO in November published its CII Operations Clause for Time Charter Parties, and acknowledges that many stakeholders are still struggling to interpret the complexities of the CII regulation.

"We will continue to seek solutions to help our members operate commercially in a complex regulatory environment," says David Loosley, BIMCO's Secretary General & CEO.

## LOGISTIC NEWS

### Year in Review. The Good-Better-Best of Logistics in 2022

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

**T**he year 2022 will be remembered as the best year for India's \$250 billion logistics industry. A year after the pandemic hit the economy hard, the country saw both export and import bouncing back strongly with logistics providing the required support to spur growth.

**The year's biggest announcement was the unveiling of the National Logistics Policy (NLP) in September,** giving a new lease of life to the highly fragmented and unorganised sector. It seeks to pave the way for India to become a logistics hub by providing seamlessly integrated multiple modes of transportation by leveraging technology,



**National Logistics Policy has laid a strong foundation for the sector, paving way for improved efficiency.**

processes and skilled manpower.

The PM Gati Shakti scheme launched in 2021 envisaged efficiency in services like processes, digital systems and regulatory framework. The NLP is the logical next step.

India currently records relatively higher logistics costs at 16 per cent of the GDP while it is 8-10 per

cent for most of the mature economies. If implemented well, the NLP will help in reducing logistics cost to less than 10 per cent of the GDP from the present 16 per cent in a couple of years, say experts.

Various stakeholders with whom businessline spoke with agreed that **the year ended on a positive note for the logistics**

**industry and a strong foundation has been laid.**

Says Rizwan Soomar, CEO and MD, DP World Subcontinent, the Indian logistics sector closed 2022 on a positive note on the back of robust import and export activity during the year. The Comprehensive Logistics Action Plan with its carefully crafted eight pillars will help operationalise the NLP in its quest to build an effective logistics infrastructure in the country.

Agreeing with Soomar, Pirojshaw Sarkari, CEO, GATI Ltd, says that 2022 has set the stage for the logistics industry for building an integrated and resilience ecosystem by eliminating the pockets of inefficiency.

**The year 2022 was**

**an important year for India's supply chain and logistics sector, feels Vineet Agarwal, Managing Director, Transport Corporation of India.** "We believe that the coming years will show unmatched results with a robust infrastructure and various integration policies being implemented.

According to Sanjay Bhatia, Co-Founder and CEO, Freightwalla, after two years of the pandemic and skyrocketing prices, this year has been nebulous in market behaviour... "Although the escalating geopolitical tensions have been the biggest disruptors in the global EXIM dynamics, Q1 of 2023 is expected to bring some good news. **We are optimistic about the demand rise in the new year, which will bolster the overall EXIM ecosystem of India,**" he said.

# CONTAINER TERMINAL NEWS



"Worrying will never change the outcome"

## Cargo terminal at Great Nicobar

PORT BLAIR  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Union Minister of State for Fisheries, Dr L Murugan said that a cargo terminal will be set up at a cost of Rs 75000 crore in Campbell bay in the Great Nicobar Islands.



MoS for Fisheries L. Murugan

Informing that a detailed project report is being prepared for the cargo terminal project, the

Minister said that a modern fish landing centre will be set up at Mayabunder in the Northern part of the Middle Andaman.

The Minister however did not disclose the status of the proposed cargo terminal at Colachel for which the Union cabinet had given an in principle approval way back in 2015.

Responding to the fisher folks demands, Dr L Murugan said that a modern fish landing centre will be set up in Mayabunder. He also listed out the various welfare schemes being implemented by the Union Government for the welfare of fishermen..

**The Union Government has allocated funds to buy 7 deep-sea fishing boats in the Andaman Islands, he said.**

## PORT NEWS

### Storm warning signal hoisted at Pamban Port

RAMESHWARAM  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Storm Warning Signal number three was mounted at Pamban port in Rameswaram on December 26 to warn of the danger of upcoming storm.

The Pamban Port Office has installed a storm cage to inform about the sea changes, wind speed and storm risks with the main of warning the fishermen



Storm warning signal 3 hoisted at Pamban port

who go fishing in the open sea.

According to the information provided by the Pamban Port office, a morning depression over the southwest Bay of Bengal moved southwest and centred at 1730 hrs IST today, in the same area on December 24 230 km east northeast of

Trincomalee 220 east of Jaffna , 360 km east-southeast of Nagapattinam (Tamil Nadu) and 480 km south-southeast of Chennai (Tamil Nadu).

**Met office had forecast heavy rains in three southern districts of Tamil Nadu for the next two days.**



Organised by



Confederation of Indian Industry

Supported by



Concurrently with



The Logistics Event of India

# Logistics

The 12<sup>th</sup> Edition

**16 - 18 February 2023**  
Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, India

END TO END SOLUTIONS TO MOVE THE WORLD

### FACT SHEET

- 3 - Days Exhibition
- 1 Day Logistics Summit
- 75+ Exhibitors | 300+ Delegates
- B2B & B2G Meetings
- International Participations
- 10000+ Business & Trade Visitors

### CONCURRENT EVENTS


## PORTS (REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL)

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

### Cuddalore port all set to take off

CHENNAI  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Alongside berthing of cargo vessels is expected to be operational at the Cuddalore port in a few months even as the Tamil Nadu Maritime board is scouting for a private operator to run the port and market its cargo potential.

The board has floated a tender to identify the operator who would run the port and do the marketing function on a revenue sharing basis. A decision on who would run the port is expected soon. The port is situated just 1 kilometre away from broad gauge railway line and the

connectivity is yet to be established.

During the current financial the port is expected to handle one million tons cargo catering to the hinterland comprising coastal, central and western Tamil Nadu. The state maritime board has plans to increase the cargo handling at the two berths to 3.5 million tons in the next ten years and ultimate capacity is estimated at 5.68 million tons according to a government release.

The project costing Rs 135 crores has been implemented during the last three years under the Sagar Mala program, cost being shared by the centre



Cuddalore port

and the state maritime board. The project is being implemented under the EPC mode include construction of breakwaters both in the North and southern side of the entrance channel. Two dedicated berths for cargo handling have also been put in place.

The project also included capital dredging from the

entrance channel till the cargo berth at six meters so that a medium sized vessel can be berthed.

**Puducherry port situated about 10 kilometres north of Cuddalore Port is being developed as a satellite port for Chennai for handling container cargo.**

Containers cleared by the customs at Puducherry port will move directly to the ships berthed in the two container terminals of Chennai Port. About eighty kilometres South of Cuddalore is a full-fledged Karaikal port which is being run for the past 14 years basically as a coal handling port. The port has since been taken over by the Adani Ports. This will form the cluster of three ports in central Tamil Nadu. Northern Tamil Nadu has three ports around Chennai including the Chennai, Kamarajar and Katupalli ports in Ennore. On the southern flank of the state at is the VOC Port which handles around forty million tons of cargo annually.

### SEAFARERS NEWS

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

More than 400,000 Filipino seafarers have been on edge since an audit conducted by the European Maritime Safety Agency, or EMSA, indicated that the Philippines has not been complying with international maritime safety standards. EMSA is charged with reducing the risks of maritime accidents, marine pollution from ships and loss of human lives at sea.

Earlier in 2022, the EMSA specified that the training and certification in Philippine maritime education institutions fell short of guidelines mandated by the International

### Philippines: 400,000 seafarers at risk of sailing ban



Job applicants take shelter from the rain as they line up outside the Luneta Seafarer's Center in Manila on Oct. 6, 2022. George Calvelo, ABS-CBN News/File

Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers.

The European Commission will ultimately decide the seafarers' fate following the EMSA audit. If the Commission upholds the findings, it may no longer

recognize the seafarers' competency certifications, which would prohibit them from working on European Union-flagged vessels — effectively leaving them jobless. The Philippines could also end up being excluded from the

International Maritime Organization's "white list" of countries with seafarer employability.

**Clock ticking for thousands of Filipino seafarers**

Celia Dejong, press officer for the European Commission, told DW that in case a withdrawal decision is adopted, existing seafarers certificates would only be recognized until they expire. The maximum period of the recognition of seafarers' certificates is five years.

**Philippines warned about noncompliance for years**

EMSA has been warning the Philippines about it noncompliance since 2006.

During a hearing in the Philippine Senate in October, Migrant Workers Assistant Secretary Jerome Pampolina warned that 2022 is the final year marked by EMSA for compliance and warned of a "domino effect" on other related maritime industries.

In November, Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. met with European Union transport officials in Belgium and assured them that the government is committed to addressing the flagged deficiencies and complying with European regulations.

"The government makes so much money from seafarers. They need to at least provide them with up-to-date training and not stopgap measures."

### NEWS IN BRIEF

(To Read Full News Please go to [www.sagarsandesh.in](http://www.sagarsandesh.in))

#### Relief for shippers as freight costs dip to near pre-pandemic levels

AFTER more than two years of exceptionally high freight rates in a tight capacity market, shippers are finally getting some relief. In the latter half of the year, shipping rates for both dry bulk carriers and container ships .....



#### New Analysis Counts the Cost of Maritime Chokepoint Closures

The world's 11 busiest maritime chokepoints are increasingly becoming vulnerable and prone to the risk of closure due to politics, piracy, vessel accidents and other causes - eventualities that could have far-reaching impacts on international trade, commercial shipping .....





**PORTS (REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL)**

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

# COSCO Adds More Green Energy to Power Port of Tianjin

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

COSCO Shipping completed the second phase of its project to create a green energy hub that the Port of Tianjin. One of China's ten largest seaports and its northernmost port, COSCO is converting the terminals to operate on sustainable energy.

Early in December, COSCO reports it completed the construction and installation of three additional wind turbines as part of Phase II of the Green Intelligent Energy Demonstration Program.

Each of the turbines stands approximately 325 feet off the ground with

each blade measuring approximately 230 feet. Jointly implemented by COSCO SHIPPING Tianjin, COSCO Goldwind, and Tianjin Port Group, the new installation adds another 15 MW of wind energy for the port's operations.

During Phase II, the project team members considered the environmental adaptability of the wind turbines, the electricity consumption of the terminal, and the clearances. Beyond the technical considerations, they also invited experts from the China Academy of Art to design the tower painting for the wind turbines. In line with



One of the five wind turbines is visible at the left side of the photo (Tianjin port COSCO)

modern aesthetics and to integrate them into their surroundings, the three wind turbines were painted with gradient shades, with green, blue, and red as the main colors, symbolizing environmental friendliness, port and hub, respectively.

The Green Intelligent

Energy Demonstration Program Section C of the Port of Tianjin (Phase II) is located in the area of the Beijiang Union International Container Terminal and Ro-Ro Terminal.

Funded by Tianjin Goldwind COSCO

New Energy Co. Ltd., a subsidiary of COSCO SHIPPING Tianjin, the project includes three GW171-5MW wind power generators. Now that they are commissioned, they are expected to provide 35 million kWh of clean electricity annually, saving about 14,000 tons of standard coal and reducing about 34,895 tons of carbon dioxide emissions.

The port highlights that its terminals are becoming self-sufficient using clean energy for operations. The project is also designed to support the growth of port operations. So far in 2022, the port has reported a better than four percent growth in volumes. It has handled approximately 18.4 million TEU.

# Egis India and Mongla Port Authority sign agreement to upgrade

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Egis India & Mongla Port Authority sign related agreement to upgrade: Egis India Consulting Engineers Private Limited has been appointed as consultant for a capacity building project worth Tk 6,014 crore at Mongla Port, the second largest seaport in Bangladesh.

will provide Tk 4,459 crore as assistance under its line of credit.

The project is scheduled to be complete by July 30, 2024.

The upgradation works include constructing a container terminal, handling and delivery yards, a residential complex and community facilities, marine workshop, multi-storey car lots, service jetty, and more.

Besides, the MPA will procure eight vessels to support port operations, such as loading and unloading goods from larger ships.

Once implemented, Mongla port will be able to handle 1,800 vessels, 50 lakh tonnes of cargo, 4 lakh twenty-foot equivalent unit (TEUs) containers and 10,000 vehicles annually, according to the MPA.

In addition, the port's annual revenue is expected to increase by Tk 150 crore while that of related customs and other agencies could grow by as much as Tk 3,000 crore.

Rear Admiral Mohammad Musa, chairman of the MPA, and Laurent Germain, chief executive officer of Egis India, signed the agreement on behalf of their respective parties.

Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury, the State Minister for Shipping,

was present as Chief Guest while Pranay Verma, the Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh, acted as a Special Guest.



Egis India & Mongla Port Authority sign related agreement to upgrade

The Mongla Port Authority (MPA) and Egis India signed the related agreement, styled "Upgradation of Mongla port", at the Radisson Blu Dhaka Water Garden in the capital.

Of the estimated Tk 6,014 crore project, the government will finance Tk 1,555 crore from its own coffer while India

# Sagar Sandesh

## Weekly Thrice E-Paper

is bringing out a colourful

# NEW YEAR 2023

## SPECIAL EDITION

on the occasion of  
"New Year"  
Scheduled to be  
released on  
December 31, 2022 Saturday  
(issue dated 02-01-2023)

Please Contact

Corporate Office  
**P. RENGARAJ**  
+91 9994885497 / 72000 84864  
admin@sagarsandesh.in /  
admin@porttoport.in

Tuticorin  
**M. RICHARD COLLINS**  
(+91 80565 89410)  
colinsrichard1975@gmail.com

Chennai  
**A. RAMKUMAR**  
(+91 99528 80461)  
chennai@porttoport.in

## TRADE BODY NEWS



"Worrying will never change the outcome"

## Indian exporters keeping fingers crossed over China's Covid situation: FIEO

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Indian exporters are keeping their fingers crossed on account of rising Covid infections in China and other countries as it could again disrupt supply chains and affect demand for goods.

Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) Director General Ajay Sahai said that **if the cases continue to increase in the coming days, it may have implications on imports.** "We are keeping our fingers crossed," he said.

Sahai said that if Chinese industries start shutting down due to rise in Covid cases, it would



FIEO Director General Ajay Sahai

impact imports of key components for sectors such as pharmaceuticals, electronics and automobiles. "If the situation persists, then there would be issues," he added.

According to the commerce ministry data, India's imports from China

during April-October this fiscal stood at USD 60.27 billion, while exports aggregated at USD 8.77 billion.

**Major goods imported from China** included electronic items, organic and inorganic chemicals, medicinal

and pharmaceutical products, fertilisers, crude and manufactured and dyeing/tanning/colouring materials.

Hand Tools Association President Subhash Chander Ralhan too said that if Covid cases increase further, it would pose problems for industry here.

"We import key raw materials for sectors like chemicals and engineering from China," Ralhan said. He suggested that **the government should consider stopping flights from China to contain the spread of the Covid cases.**

Amid a spurt in Covid cases in some parts of the world, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi cautioned against complacency

and directed officials to strengthen the ongoing surveillance measures, especially at international airports.

Omicron subvariant BF.7 is apparently the strain driving China's current surge of Covid cases.

Sharing similar views, leading exporter of Mumbai and Founder Chairman of Technocraft Industries India Sharad Kumar Saraf said that the exporting community is concerned due to rising infections in China.

**"Rising cases are cause of concern for us.** Our pharma industry is dependent on China. In my factory there, we are witnessing 40 per cent absenteeism," Saraf said.

## Port Workers' Body Ask Govt Not to Further Deepen Cochin Port Channel

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Vallarpadam has hardly any scope for developing as a transshipment terminal for many reasons, a resolution passed at the 10th annual conference of the Federation noted.

The Water Transport Workers Federation of India has urged the Shipping Ministry to step back from the proposed deepening of the channel for ICTT Vallarpadam in Cochin Port.

It is a proven fact that Vallarpadam has hardly any scope for developing as a transshipment terminal for many reasons, including

its poor cargo hinterland, a resolution passed at the 10th annual conference of the Federation in Kolkata noted.

CD Nandakumar, the newly elected president of the Federation, said that the **DP World-operated ICTT project is still functioning as an ordinary terminal,** witnessing a slow growth in coastal cargo ever since its establishment in 2011. **The present proposal to further deepen the channel will incur the port a huge expenditure for maintenance dredging, as the present annual dredging cost was to the tune of ₹140 crore.**

Hence, any proposal



ICTT Vallarpadam in Cochin Port

to add further financial burden is not affordable to the port, thereby making its future uncertain. The absence of a minimum guarantee throughput (MGT) provision in the ICTT License agreement has made things worse, he added.

The resolution also pointed out that the speedy implementation of several aggressive policies in major ports would end up the ownership of the government in the port sector, which is considered the lifeline and backbone of the country's economy.

It is to be noted that 95 per cent of the country's exim trade was handled by major ports till 1991, and now it has been passed on to the private sector by repealing the Major Port Trust Act 1963.

**The resolution also cautioned the government against the emergence of monopoly in port sector as its impact would be worse in the long run.**

The meeting also appealed to the government to take urgent steps for the release of Indian seafarers in MV Heroic Idun from the custody of the Nigerian Navy. It also urged expedite action on bipartite wage negotiations and settle the bonus issue of port and dock workers.

## LOGISTIC NEWS

## Andhra Pradesh to get two Multi Modal Logistics Parks

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Multi-Model Logistics Parks will be developed at Viskhapatnam and Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh, Minister of State for Commerce Som Prakash told



Multi modal logistics park

the rajya sabha in a written answer last week.

**The ministry of Roads and National Highway Authority have identified 35 places for developing logistics parks across the country.** The national logistics policy was approved by the Union

Cabinet on September 21 with an aim to reduce expenditure on logistics by developing logistic parks, to create a full fledged logistic ecosystem in the country. Efficient logistic system is necessary for overall integrated financial development."

# LOGISTICS (ROAD/RAIL/AVIATION)



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

## Railways places orders for 1200 electric locomotives with Gujarat's Railway factory

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Railways have issued the Letter of Award (LoA) for Manufacturing and Maintenance of 9000 HP Electric Freight Locomotives to Siemens, India. Railways factory at Gujarat's Dahod to manufacture 1200 high horse power (9000 HP) electric locomotives over a period of 11 years.

Railways have their own electric locomotive unit in Madhepura in Bihar which has been functioning for the past seven years. But the National transporter has placed orders with German multinational firm having a plant at Gujarat



Electric locomotive

The order entails manufacturing of 1200 locomotives and maintenance of these locomotives for 35 years in the Gujarat factory. The estimated value of contract is about Rs 26000 Crore (about 3.2 Billion USD), excluding taxes and price variation.

Agreement with Siemens India

will be signed within 30 days of issue of LoA. The proto-type locomotives are to be delivered in the coming two years. Dahod Unit will be fully constructed for manufacturing these locomotives within a period of two years.

Siemens, selected as technological partner, will manufacture these locomotives at Dahod and maintain these locomotives at four maintenance depots - Vishakhapatnam, Raipur, Kharagpur, Pune for a period of 35 years utilizing Railway's Manpower.

Suitable economic drivers will ensure complete indigenization of the manufacturing which in

turn will lead to development of ancillary manufacturing units making it a true 'Make in India' initiative. The project will also lead to development of the Dahod region and generate employment.

These High Horse Power (9000 HP) locomotives will be the future workhorse for freight operation on Indian Railways.

It would improve the average speed of such trains to around 50-60 kmph over the existing 20-25 kmph in other railway network.... These locomotives, equipped with state of the art IGBT based propulsion technology, will provide savings in energy consumption due to regenerative braking technology.

## RT-PCR Tests Mandatory for passengers from China South Korea, Japan and Thailand

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

RT-PCR tests will be mandatory for those arriving from China, South Korea, Japan, and Thailand, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said on December 24 as the government took stock of the situation to check the spread of coronavirus in the country.

The Air Suvidha forms filling to declare current health status shall also be made compulsory for international passengers arriving from these countries. The Air Suvidha self-declaration form is a digital health and travel document that is currently required from all travelers who wish to enter India.

The Government's decision in this regard came a day after the Union Health Minister held a meeting with state ministers to discuss the current situation and ensure that the country is ready with all measures in place. A huge spike in cases in China this month has caught massive attention. Nearly 18 per cent of China's population is said to be affected by the virus in the first 20 days of December, as per reports.

Mr Mandaviya had tweeted on December 23rd- following a meeting with state ministers that "Emphasized on the need to be



RT-PCR tests will be mandatory for those arriving from China, South Korea, Japan, and Thailand,

alert in COVID-19 review meeting with State Health Ministers. There is no need to panic. We have 3 years of experience in pandemic management. The Centre Govt will provide all the support to combat COVID-19. We will take action as per the needs. (sic)".

**"We are keeping a close watch at the global Covid situation on a daily basis and we will take whatever measures are required to ensure that the disease does not spread in the country."**

The Union ministry also released guidelines for the upcoming festive season asking people to celebrate with caution. India has been recording a few hundred cases daily despite lakhs of cases being recorded globally.

### 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.



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



## EXIM TREND

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

# Judicial member not a must for CCI, rules NCLAT

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The ruling comes on the heels of the Standing Committee on Finance noting, in its recent report on Competition (Amendment) Bill, that the matter of whether or not a judicial member should form part of CCI is sub judice before the Supreme Court of India | Photo Credit: cueapi

Putting to rest a long standing serious contentious issue, the National



**Judicial member not a must for CCI to function validly**

Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) has, in a landmark ruling, said **judicial member is not a must for the Competition Commission of India (CCI) to validly discharge its functions.**

In the recent beer cartel ruling issued on Friday, the NCLAT has emphatically rejected the contention of the parties who challenged the CCI penalty on the ground that the ruling was not given by a commission comprising judicial member and hence the entire proceedings are void.

"On perusal of provisions (on composition of Competition Commission), it is evident that nowhere it has been indicated

that CCI must consist a judicial member. The Act (Competition Act) does not reflect to add a judicial member for deciding the proceeding... the objection raised by the learned counsel for appellant that in absence of Judicial Member order impugned is illegal has got no substance," said the order by NCLAT Bench comprising Justice Rakesh Kumar, member (judicial) and Ashok Kumar Mishra, member (technical).

The ruling comes on the heels of the Standing Committee on Finance

noting in its recent report on Competition (Amendment) Bill that the matter of whether or not a judicial member should form part of CCI is sub judice before the Supreme Court of India and therefore, any decision in this regard need to await the outcome of the case.

**Currently, the CCI has only two members and none are from the judicial background.**

In 2018, the Union Cabinet had decided it will not appoint anyone other than the chairman and three members.

## MINISTRY NEWS

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The Directorate of Intelligence Revenue (DRI) officers busted two clandestine Mephedrone manufacturing labs at Hyderabad and neutralised the entire network by nabbing the mastermind and financier.

Officials of the DRI seized 24.885 kg of Mephedrone in finished form, valued at Rs. 49.77 crore in the grey market,

# DRI seizes around 25 kg of Mephedrone during raids at Hyderabad, 7 arrested



**Mephedrone manufacturing labs at Hyderabad**

along with in-process materials, sale proceeds of Rs. 18.90 lakh, key raw materials, machinery and vehicles used for trafficking.

Acting on the basis of specific intelligence, DRI

started a swift and well-coordinated operation on 21<sup>st</sup> Dec, 2022, and busted the two clandestine labs. **Seven persons carrying out the manufacturing in these two locations were arrested and remanded to judicial custody.**

In an immediate follow-up action, the mastermind and main financier of this activity was nabbed at Gorakhpur, as he was attempting to flee to Nepal with cash of Rs. 60 lakh.

This coordinated action

is in line with the exhortation of the Home Minister & Finance Minister to the officials, with emphasis on going after the big fish and catching main handlers and perpetrators/financers in drug cases.

Neutralising of the clandestine labs and apprehending of the entire drug syndicate has dealt a blow to their plans for committing nefarious activities in the wake of new year and thereafter.

**This is a second such factory bust carried**

**by DRI in the current financial year,** following a similar case at Yamuna Nagar, Haryana, in July-August 2022. In this financial year alone (till November, 2022), officers of DRI have seized about 990 kg of Heroin, 88 kg of Cocaine, 10,000 Methamphetamine tablets, 2,400 liters of Phensedyl cough syrup and various other harmful NDPS substances. DRI remains committed to safeguarding the nation's health and tackle the challenge of narco-terrorism.

## IMO NEWS

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

During the 79<sup>th</sup> session of the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC), the International Maritime Organization (IMO) amended Annex VI (Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships) of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL) to adopt the Mediterranean Sea Emission Control Area for Sulphur Oxides and Particulate Matter (Med SOx ECA) and designate the Mediterranean Sea as a Sulphur Emission Control Area (SECA).

# The International Maritime Organization designates the Mediterranean Sea as a sulphur emission control area

**Other SECAs include** the Baltic Sea, the North Sea, the North American Area (covering waters adjacent to the Pacific coast, Atlantic coast, Gulf of Mexico coast and eight Hawaiian Islands) and the United States Caribbean Sea. This decision requires ships sailing in this area to switch to marine fuels with 0.1% sulphur content, as of the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 2025.

**Given that the Mediterranean Sea, covering roughly 2.5 million square kilometres and supporting 20% of sea-borne trade, is considered to be one of the busiest**



Mediterranean Sea

**water bodies and maritime routes in the world, this decision was welcomed by many and is seen as a step in the right direction**

**towards cleaner air in this region.**

Moreover, as heavy air pollution in the Mediterranean Sea is largely attributed to the shipping industry, this move is expected to cut emissions for sulphur oxides by 78.7% and lead to an annual reduction of 8.5 million tonnes of sulphur oxides released into the atmosphere, making a considerable impact in the combatting of climate change; according to statistics released by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

**The implications of this amendment will affect all Maltese-flagged vessels and any vessel passing through such SECA, irrespective of its flag.**

As was previously done for the global fuel sulphur cap of 0.5%, which was introduced from 1 January 2020 under MARPOL Annex VI, Transport Malta should soon release a technical notice, whereby it provides guidance to shipowners and ship operators on the new amendments.

Through the expansion of SECAs, the shipping industry continues to address its environmental responsibilities and attempts to reduce its impact on the environment to the fullest extent possible.