

Opening & Acknowledgements

- Warm welcome to Chief Guest, Guests of Honour, dignitaries, industry leaders, and maritime community.
- Purpose: Workshop on IMO Matters — strengthening India's role in shaping the global maritime agenda.

Importance of IMO for India

- IMO: global body for safety, security, environmental performance of shipping.

Institutional Legacy & Transition

- DG Shipping → DG Maritime Administration.
- Evolution from regulatory authority to strategic international voice.
- Focus: safety, environment, seafarer welfare.
- Modernisation: governance, digitalisation, IMO alignment.

Global Geopolitics & India's Leadership

- Maritime domain facing conflicts & disruptions.
- India = natural leader: balanced, responsible voice.
- Founding IMO member; Category B Council seat with record votes.
- Legacy: C. P. Srivastava, IMO Secretary-General, WMU & IMLI founder.
- Next steps:
 - More Indian professionals in IMO roles.
 - Permanent representative at IMO.
 - Research collaborations, WMU/IMLI professorial chairs.
 - Regional & bilateral maritime partnerships.
 - Address: shadow fleets, unsafe manning, seafarer abandonment/criminalisation, repatriation.
 - Promote green shipping & tech transitions.
 - Showcase India globally at Posidonia, Korea Maritime Week, Nor-Shipping, London Maritime Week.

India's Maritime Standing

- India is the third-largest provider of seafarers worldwide, following China and the Philippines. Indian seafarers constitute nearly 10% of the global maritime workforce. More than 2.5 lakh seafarers ~45,000 women.
- 33% of global ship recycling.
- Ports: Vizag (20th), JNPA (28th), Mundra (27th) in global top 100.
- Logistics Performance Index: 38th (2023), strong turnaround times of 1-2 days.
- Strategic location in Indian Ocean; initiatives like Chabahar, INSTC, SAGAR.

India's Global Maritime Vision

- “Make in India – Make for the World.”
- At IMO: active participation in MEPC, MSC, subcommittees.
- Future focus:
 - Balanced regulations.
 - Green shipping, decarbonisation.
 - Seafarer safety & welfare.
 - Greater visibility in global maritime platforms.

Closing Notes

- Today's sessions: MEPC & MSC focus (emissions, safety, new fuels, new tech).
- NAVIC Cell 24: strengthening domain awareness, navigation, preparedness.
- Workshop = platform for India to move from participant → shaper of maritime order.
- Acknowledge International Cooperation Branch, IMEI, IRS, and partners.