



नौक्षितिजम्

Maritime Horizon, Future of the Seas

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF NATIONAL SHIPPING BOARD

Year 2025-26

Volume-IV

January- March



“समुद्रे प्रज्ञा, राष्ट्रे प्रगति:”

Wisdom in the ocean, progress in the nation

NATIONAL SHIPPING BOARD

India's Apex Advisory Board on Shipping & Maritime
Affairs (Merchant Shipping Act, 2025)

NATIONAL SHIPPING BOARD

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING & WATERWAYS

The Maritime Transport is a critical infrastructure for the social and economic development of a country. It influences the pace, structure, and pattern of development. The Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways encompass within its fold ports, shipping, and waterways sectors which include Shipbuilding and Ship-repair, Major Ports, National Waterways, and Inland Water Transport.

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has been entrusted with the responsibility to formulate policies and programs on these subjects and their implementation. A comprehensive policy package is necessary to address the diverse issues facing the Maritime transport sector.

The National Shipping Board is established by the Central Government by way of a notification issued under the Section (4) of the Merchant Shipping Act-2025 (the old Merchant Shipping Act-1958) for a period of 2 years, from the date of notification. As per the statute, the Board shall advise the Central Government on matters relating to Indian Shipping including the development thereof and on such other matters arising of this act as the Central Government may refer to it for advice. The Board shall have power to regulate its own procedure for the conduct of business.



HONORABLE MINISTERS



SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL
Honorable Cabinet Minister



SHRI SHANTANU KUMAR
Honorable Minister of State



Chairperson's Message

Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.)

Chairperson, National Shipping Board

It gives me great pleasure to present the 4th edition of the National Shipping Board Newsletter. This edition reflects the continued efforts, deliberations, and achievements of the Board in supporting the growth and development of India's maritime and shipping sector.

During the period from January to March 2026, the Board held a series of constructive meetings and discussions on key issues concerning the shipping industry. Important matters relating to maritime trade, operational efficiency, sustainability, port connectivity, capacity development, and evolving global shipping trends were deliberated upon with active participation from members and stakeholders.

The Board remains committed to promoting a safe, efficient, sustainable, and globally competitive maritime ecosystem. The insights and recommendations emerging from our meetings continue to contribute towards strengthening policy initiatives and enhancing the overall resilience and growth of the shipping sector.

I sincerely appreciate the valuable contributions made by all Board Members, officials, industry representatives, and stakeholders. Their dedication, expertise, and collaborative approach have been instrumental in advancing the objectives of the National Shipping Board.

I hope this newsletter serves as an informative platform for sharing developments, initiatives, and perspectives relevant to the maritime community. I am confident that through continued cooperation and collective efforts, we will further strengthen India's position in the global maritime sector and contribute meaningfully to the nation's economic progress.

I extend my best wishes to all readers and contributors of this edition.

Stakeholder Consultations with the Board

SN	Venue of the Meeting and Date	Details of the Stakeholders Consulted	Agenda discussed
1.	Goa on 26-27/02/2026	- Foreign Owners Representatives and Ship Manager Association (FOSMA), Mumbai - Maritime Association of Shipowners Shipmanagers and Agents (MASSA), Mumbai - Centre for Maritime Economy and Connectivity (CMEC), New Delhi - All India Ship Repairs Association, Visakhapatnam - Mercantile Marine Department, Goa - Indian Register of Shipping, Goa Branch - DGLL, Noida - Federation of All India Sailing Vessels Industry Associations, Mumbai - Buoyancy Consultants & Engineering, Goa - Shipyards Association of Goa, Goa - Goa Shipyards Limited, Goa - Mormugao Port Authority, Goa - Captain of Ports, Government of Goa, Ports Department - Kokan Maritime Cluster, Goa - Aquarium Marine Services & Consultancy, Goa	- Confirmation of the MoM of NSB dated 18-19/12/2025 - Status of ATR of the meeting held on 30/05/2025, 16/07/2025, 25/08/2025, 06-07/10/2025, 13-14/11/2025 - Finalization of Communication Strategy, Vision, Mission, Core Values & Objectives of NSB - Indianizing the Indian Maritime Heritage and Reforms in Maritime Sector - Ex Post-facto Approval of formation of NSB sub-committees - Update on sub-committee on 'Augmentation of Indian Tonnage' - Promotion of Shipbuilding/Ship Repair Facilities in India/ Promotion of Ship recycling Industries/Facilities in India/ Issues related to Seafarers including increasing share of Indian Seafarers in the Global Market/ Development of Inland Waterways including improving regional connectivity/ Promotion of Coastal Shipping Inland Waterways/ Promotion of the Cruise and the House Boat Tourism/ Maritime Emergency preparedness and response/ Documentation on Indian Maritime Heritage/ Creating an Integrated Maritime single window that is Globally Compliant/ Skilling, Development of Regional Maritime Hub and Maritime Linkage with the Neighbourhood/ Emerging Technologies, Reduction in Logistic Costs - Proposed NSB Rules 2026 Continue.....

Stakeholder Consultations with the Board

SN	Venue of the Meeting and Date	Details of the Stakeholders Consulted	Agenda discussed
	Goa on 26-27/02/2026	- Dempo Shipbuilding and Engineering Pvt. Ltd., Goa - Salaya Ship Association, Jamnagar - New Era Shipping Pvt. Ltd, Goa - LRAJ Green Solution Ltd. Goa - E-Dot Solutions, Goa - International Maritime Federation, Mumbai - Goa ICT Pvt. Ltd. Goa	- Implication of Registration of Vessels Owned by Foreign Companies in Gift City vis-a-vis the registration of domestically owned vessels. - Abandonment of Indian Seafarers - Immigration Issues relating to Coastal Vessels - Issues related to Security of the Ports - Creation of Centralized Database of Inland Vessels & lack of Inland Vessels' regulation - Budget Announcement- Development of 20 Inland waterways - Budget Announcement- Development of NW 5 - Budget Announcement- Sea Plane connectivity - Budget Announcement- Domestic Container Manufacturing - Representation of SAI 'Urgent Need for Policy Intervention on Import of Second Hand Vessels, to Promote Domestic Shipbuilding - Tonnage Tax on Inland vessels (IVs): - Imposition of Increased Shifting Charges on Coastal Import Containers by the Cochin Port Authority - Introductory reel on the NSB - Meeting with Stakeholders Associations

Stakeholder Consultations with the Board

SN.	Venue of the Meeting and Date	Details of the Stakeholders Consulted	Agenda discussed
2.	New Delhi on 10.03.2026	Only Members of NSB attended	- Status of the Minutes of the last NSB meeting held on 26-27/02/2026 - Status of the Action taken on the MoM held on 30/05/2025,16/07/2025, 25/08/2025, 06-07/10/2025, 13-14/11/2025, 18-19/12/2025 - Discussion on the issues to be raised during the interactions of the NSB members with the Minister of PSW - Constitution of the Sub-Committee on taxation reforms

Stakeholder Consultations of the Chairperson, NSB

SN.	Venue of the Meeting & Date	Details of the Stakeholder Consulted
1.	Mumbai on 29.01.2026	- National Union of Seafarers of India Maritime Academy (NUSI), Mumbai - Maritime Union of India (MUI), Mumbai - International Transport Workers Federation (ITF)
2.	Mumbai on 30.01.2026	Empowered NSB Sub-Committee - Indian Coastal Conference Shipping Association (ICCSA) - Indian National Shipowners' Association (INSA) - Coastal Container Transporters Association (CCTA)
3.	Gandhidham on 10.02.2026	MMD, Kandla
4.	Jakhou on 11.02.2026.	- Ultratech Cement, Vayor, Kutch - Gujarat Maritime Board Port Officials, Jakhou, Kutch - Indian Coast Guard, Jakhou, Kutch - Marine Salt Producer Factory, Jakhou, Kutch - lighthouse at Narayan Sarovar, Kutch
5.	Mandvi on 12.02.2026	- Kutch Indian Sailing Vessels Association, Mandvi, Kutch - Gujarat Maritime Board Port Officials, Mandvi, Kutch - Lighthouse at Mandvi, Kutch
6.	Kandla on 13.02.2026	Logistics service providers at Gujrat Freight Forum Kandla, Kutch
7.	Morbi on 14.02.2026	- Gujarat Port Officials, Navalakhi Port - Marine Salt Producers Association, Morbi - Morbi Chambers of Commerce and Industries, Morbi
8.	Karwar on 25.02.2026	- Naval Base, Indian Navy, Karwar - NUSI Maritime Academy, Goa

Photo Gallery



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), Chairperson, NSB; Shri Milind Kandalgaonkar, NSB Member and General Secretary NUSI and Capt. Savio Ramos, NSB Member and General Secretary MUI attended the Milap ITF Seafarers EXPO at Mumbai on 29.01.2026.



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), Chairperson NSB interacted with NSB Members Representing INSA, ICCSA and CCTA in Mumbai on 30.01.2026.

Photo Gallery



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), Chaiperson, NSB was greeted by Shri Santosh Kumar Darokar, PO, MMD Kandla on 07.02.2026 at Bhuj Airport.



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), Chaiperson, NSB alongwith Shri Santosh Darokar, PO, MMD, Kandla visited the DGLL Lighthouse in Kutch District in Gujarat on 11.02.2026.

Photo Gallery



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), Chairperson NSB alongwith Shri Santosh Kumar Darokar, PO, MMD Kandla Visited the Jakhou Salt Factory in Gujarat on 11.02.2026.



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), Chairperson NSB alongwith Shri Santosh Kumar Darokar, PO, MMD Kandla and Shri Rakesh Mishra, Port Officer, Maritime Board Gujarat Visited the Jakhou Salt Factory in Gujarat on 11.02.2026.

Photo Gallery



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), NSB Chairperson interacted with Senior Management of Ultratech Cement in Vayor, Kutch District, Gujarat on 11.02.2026.



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), NSB Chairperson interacted with the Kutch Sailing Vessels Association of Mandvi on 12.02.2026.

Photo Gallery



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), NSB Chairperson and Shri Rahul Modi, NSB Member attended the Global Freight Forum at Kandla on 13.02.2026.



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), NSB Chairperson Interacted with the Port Pilots at DPA Kandla, Gujarat on 13.02.2026.

Photo Gallery



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), NSB Chairperson interacted with senior Naval Officers at Naval Base Karwar, Karnataka on 25.02.2026



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), NSB Chairperson with the senior Naaval officers on INS Vikramaditya at Naval Base Karwar, Karnataka on 25.02.2026.

Photo Gallery



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), NSB Chairperson and other NSB Members interacted with the students of NUSI Academy at Goa on 25.02.2026.



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), NSB Chairperson addressed the students of NUSI Academy at Goa on 25.02.2026.

Photo Gallery

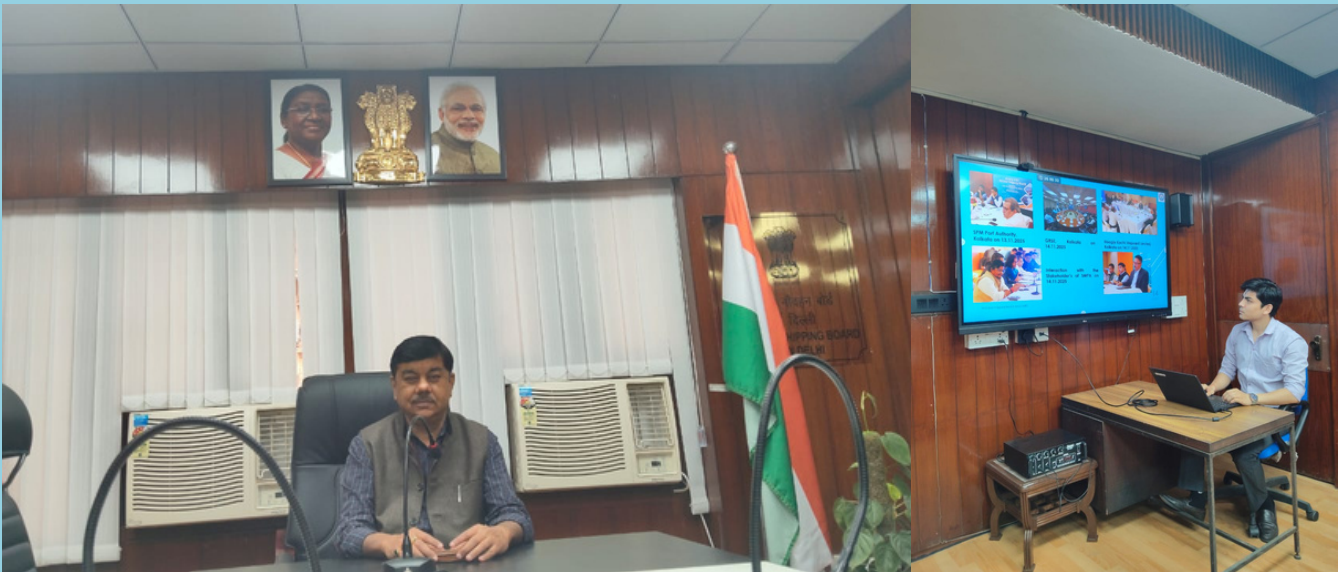


Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), NSB Chairperson with the NSB Members and other invitees during the Meeting of NSB at Goa on 26.02.2026.



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), NSB Chairperson held the meeting of the NSB on 26-27.02.2026 at Goa co-hosted by NUSI and MUI.

Photo Gallery



Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.), NSB Chairperson held the NSB meeting at Janpath, New Delhi on 10.03.2026.



Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Honorable Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways interacted with the NSB members during the the review meeting of National Shipping Board on 11.03.2026 at 'Sagarmanthan', Conference Hall of Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways at New Delhi.

We gratefully acknowledge the contributions of the Board Members, stakeholders and partners in preparing this issue. Stakeholders are invited to share articles, suggestions and inputs for the next volume at chairperson.nsb@gov.in

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