नौक्षितिज़म्

Maritime Horizon, Future of the Seas

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF NATIONAL SHIPPING BOARD

Year 2026-27 **Volume-VI** **July-September**



"समुद्रे प्रज्ञा, राष्ट्रे प्रगतिः"

Wisdom in the ocean, progress in the nation

NATIONAL SHIPPING BOARD

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

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.

सत्यमेव जयते
Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
Government of India

HONORABLE MINISTERS



SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL
Honorable Cabinet Minister



SHRI SHANTANU KUMAR
Honorable Minister of State

NATIONAL SHIPPING BOARD



Chairperson's Message

It is a privilege to share the 6th edition of नौक्षितिज़म्, capturing the deliberations, strategic outreach, and consultative milestones achieved by the National Shipping Board during the quarter spanning July to September 2026.

As India accelerates its trajectory under Maritime India Vision 2030 and Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047, the maritime sector remains central to national competitiveness, trade logistics, and sustainable coastal economic growth. This quarter has witnessed active multi-stakeholder engagements across India's eastern and western seaboards, coupled with central policy dialogues in the capital, reinforcing the Board's advisory mandate to drive reform, sustainability, and operational resilience.

Highlights of Key Board Engagements & Milestones: July – September 2026:

1. New Delhi (Virtual Deliberations) - Strengthening Institutional Cohesion:
Commencing the quarter's work, the Board convened virtually from New Delhi to assess policy advisories, legislative modernisations, and regulatory streamlining. The online forum provided an efficient mechanism to review inter-ministerial coordination, domestic tonnage expansion frameworks, and digital ease-of-doing-business initiatives across major and non-major ports.

2. Chennai - Eastern Seaboard Synergy, Port Modernisation, and Multimodal Connectivity:
Our engagement in Chennai focused on the strategic positioning of the Coromandel Coast as an integrated manufacturing, automotive, and container transshipment corridor. The Board evaluated port modernisation initiatives, coastal shipping facilitation, and deeper integration with hinterland logistics networks. Deliberations highlighted the vital role of Chennai and neighbouring ports in bolstering regional supply chain resilience and unlocking new trade volumes with Southeast Asian economies.

3. New Mangalore - Coastal Cargo Growth, Green Energy Hubs, and Seafarer Welfare:

At New Mangalore Port, discussions centred on value-added coastal logistics, clean energy transitions, and port-led industrial growth along the Konkan belt.

Continued.....

Chairperson's Message

The Board reviewed ongoing infrastructure upgrades, LNG bunkering potential, and mechanised bulk-handling systems designed to minimise environmental footprint. The visit also provided an opportunity to interact with maritime training .Institutions and seafarers' representatives, reaffirming our commitment to high standards of crew welfare, safety, and modern maritime technical training.

4. Sagar Samvad (25th August 2026, New Delhi): High-Level Consultative Dialogue:

A defining highlight of this quarter was the convening of the flagship maritime symposium, Sagar Samvad, held on 25th August 2026 at New Delhi. Bringing together the regulators, senior policymakers, port officials, maritime leadership, shipbuilders, financial institutions, and industry stalwarts, Sagar Samvad served as a premier platform for constructive dialogue on requirements of seafarers and the skilled maritime labour force and the measures required to augment the Indian Tonnage. It also saw release of the Annual Report of the National Shipping Board 2025-26, the Annual Report of the Subcommittees of the National Shipping Board 2025-26 and the dedicated website of National Shipping Board.

The consensus generated at Sagar Samvad provides actionable momentum to the Board's policy advisories submitted to the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

Charting Ahead

The maritime industry stands at an inflection point where digital adoption, environmental stewardship, and geopolitical supply chain realignments intersect. The progress registered across Chennai, New Mangalore, and New Delhi reflects a unified resolve to transform Indian ports into smart, globally competitive, and eco-friendly maritime hubs.

I express my sincere gratitude to the Members of the National Shipping Board, senior administrative colleagues, port authorities, industry partners, and maritime professionals whose dedicated efforts continue to drive this transformation forward.

I trust this edition of नौक्षितिज़म् offers a comprehensive perspective on our collaborative endeavours. Let us continue to steer Indian shipping toward enduring prosperity and leadership on the global stage.

Fair winds and following seas.

Sameer Kumar Khare, IAS (Retd.)
Chairperson, National Shipping Board
Government of India

Meet Your New Member



Capt. Bipin Krishna
Captain Indian Navy, Naval Headquarters

Capt. Bipin Krishna has been appointed as representative of the Indian Navy in the National Shipping Board in place of Capt. Vikas Anand during this quarter . He was commissioned in the Indian Navy in 2008, is presently appointed at the Naval Headquarters. His academic qualifications include BSc (Spl) from Goa University, Msc in Naval Weapons from CUSAT, and MSc in Defence Studies from Madras University. He is an alumnus of Naval Academy, Goa and Defence Services Staff College, Wellington. He has served onboard various afloat and ashore appointments during his service tenure, and has a vast operational experience.

Stakeholder Consultations with the Board

S.N.	Venue of the Meeting and Date	Details of the Stakeholders Consulted	Agenda discussed
1.	New Delhi 09.07.2026	• No Stakeholder Consultation	• Preparatory meeting for the 'Sagar Samvad' event to be held at New Delhi • Constitution of the Programme Organization Committee and the Seminar committees • Mobilization of the resources • Selection of the co-partners for the event • Selection of the Venue for the event

Stakeholder Consultations with the Board

SN.	Venue of the Meeting and Date	Details of the Stakeholders Consulted	Agenda discussed
2.	Chennai 23-24.07.2026	• Chennai Port Authority ,Chennai • Kamarajar Port Limited, Ennore • IIT, Chennai • Tamil Nadu Maritime Board, Chennai • NVG Marine Service, Chennai • Ennore Tanks Terminal Private Limited (ETTPL),Ennore • Kubera Coast, Chennai • Indianoil Petronas Private Limited (IPPL), Chennai • Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) , Chennai • HZPT, Chennai • SSMT Skill Development Private Limited ,Chennai • Caterpillar , Chennai • V Group, Chennai • AMET University, Chennai • Chensaa (Chennai & Ennore Steamer Agents Association) • Ozellar Marine, Chennai • Marine Academy, Chennai • Hindustan Institute of Maritime Technology, Chennai • JSW Infra , Chennai • Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited HPCL, Chennai • Nayara Energy, Chennai • (SNS), Dahu Group, Chennai	• Discussion on the ongoing conflict in Middle East & its implications on the Shipping Sector including Seafarers • Way forward on the meeting with the Member, GST on 28.04.26 • Way forward on the meeting with the Member, GST on 06.05.2026. • Way Forward for discussion with MHA on Immigration related issues of foreign vessels and coastal vessels including issues On Shore leave signing off/signing on/procedure for immigration etc. • Way Forward on discussion with Infrastructure finance companies and Department of Financial Services. • Way Forward on discussion with Cargo Owners for aggregation of demand for Merchant Ships • Examination on the RO-RO issue by DC Shipping • Details of NSB Meetings held prior to 2020 • Suggested Reforms Measures in Maritime Sector • Suggested measures to Indianise the Indian Colonel Maritime Legacy • NSB Annual Report 2025-26. • Proposed NSB event Sagar Samvad schedule to be held in August, 2026. • Likely launching of NSB Website by the Hon'ble Minister PSW. • Finalisation of the report of the NSB Sub-Committees 2025-26 • Finalisation of Seminar Topics of " the Sagar Samvad " event Continued.....

Stakeholder Consultations with the Board

S.N.	Venue of the Meeting and Date	Details of the Stakeholders Consulted	Agenda discussed
2.	Chennai 23-24.07.2026		Continued..... • Finalisation of the structure of the Hon'ble Minister's programme in last week of August, 2026. • Protection of innocent Seafarers on Sanctioned and Shadow fleet • Abolishing of Customs Bond for import containers • Interaction with the facility of IIT , Chennai • Interaction with Stakeholders • Interaction with The Official of Chennai port • interaction with the Official of kamarajar port limited • interaction with the Official Tamil Nadu Maritime Board facility of IIT, Chennai

Stakeholder Consultations with the Board

S.N.	Venue of the Meeting and Date	Details of the Stakeholders Consulted	Agenda discussed
3.	Mangalore 10-11.09.2026	• South India Cement Manufacturers Association, Mangalore • Adani Wilmar Limited (AWL) Agri Business Ltd. • AdaniPower Limited, Udupi • Pradeep Phosphates Limited (PPL), Mangalore • Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Mangalore • Bernhard Ship Management (BSM) Mangalore • Chowgule Ship Building Division, Mangalore • YojakaIndia Private Limited, Mangalore • Mangalore Steamers Agents Association • CMA CGM Agencies (India) Private Limited, Mangalore • Stevedores Agents Association, Mangalore • Jyothi Marine Services Private Limited, Mangalore • NCL Industries Limited, Mangalore • Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited – MRPL, Mangalore • James Makintosh & co. Private Limited Mangalore • International Transport Continued.....	• Way forward on the meeting with the Member, GST on 28.04.26 • Way forward on the meeting with the Member, GST on 06.05.2026. • Way Forward for discussion with MHA on Immigration related issues of foreign vessels and coastal vessels including issues On Shore leave signing off/signing on/procedure for immigration etc. • Way forward for discussions on broadening the definition of infrastructure status. • Way forward to mobilise infrastructure finance for large, medium and small ships including Indian Sail Vessels. • Engagement with PSU's for generation of Coastal Cargo. • Examination on the RO-RO issue by DC Shipping (status to be apprised by Secretary, NSB). • Details of NSB Meetings held prior to 2020 (Secretary NSB to apprise the position to the Board). • Suggested Reforms Measures in Maritime Sector (each member to Suggest). And preparing the reform Agenda on behalf of NSB. • Suggested measures to Indianise the Indian Colonel Maritime Legacy (As desired by Hon'ble Minister of PSW). • Way forward on Sagar Samvad held on 25.08.2026. • Post facto approval of the nomination of Shri Anil Devli in the Governing Counsel of • NMIS Mumbai. • Continued.....

Stakeholder Consultations with the Board

S.N.	Venue of the Meeting and Date	Details of the Stakeholders Consulted	Agenda discussed
3.	Mangalore 10-11.09.2026	Continued..... • workers Forum- NUSI, Mangalore • Kudremukh Iron Ore Company Limited (KIOCL),Mangalore • Indian Molasses Company (IMC) Ltd. Mangalore • Marcons Shipping (Konkan) Private Limited, Mangalore • Hiralal & Co. Shipping Private Limited, Mangalore • Jonas Petro Products, Mangalore • Gulf Agency Company (GAC) Shipping (I) Private Limited, Mangalore • Mangalore Customs House Agents (CHA) Association, Mangalore • Marine Seamen's Association, Mangalore • Ocean Sparkle Limited, Mangalore • Sreekanth, Manager, BSP Petroproducts, Mangalore • Prathap Shetty, Manager, Atlantic Shipping Private Limited, Mangalore • JM BAXI & co. Limited, Mangalore Continued.....	Continued..... • Removal of hurdles faced by Indian Shipping Companies in the domestic tax area to migrate to the IFSC. • Annual action plan for the NSB for the year 2026-27. • Annual action plan for the Sub-Committees for the year 2026-27. • Engagement with the Foreign shipping lines. • Engagement with the Foreign Ship Building Companies. • Pending TA/DA Bills of the Members. • Interaction with the Sub-Committees • interaction with the officials of the New Mangalore Port Authority • Interaction with the officials of the Karnataka Maritime Board • Interaction with Udupi CSL, Udupi • Interaction with the Stakeholders' Associations

Stakeholder Consultations with the Board

SN.	Venue of the Meeting and Date	Details of the Stakeholders Consulted	Agenda discussed
3.	Mangalore 10-11.09.2026	Continued..... • Seven Seas Marine, Mangalore • Universal Shipping Services, Mangalore • Patanjali Foods Limited, Mangalore • Hassan H. &Co., Mangalore • Samsara Shipping Pvt. Ltd., Mangalore • Mercury Shipping Pvt. Ltd., Mangalore • Sri Ganesh Shipping Agency, Mangalore • TCI Seaways Private Limited, Mangalore • Raftar Logistics Private Limited, Mangalore • Raftar Terminals Limited., Mangalore	

Stakeholder Consultations of the Chairperson, NSB

SN.	Venue of the Meeting & Date	Details of the Stakeholder Consulted
1.	Chennai on 22.07.2026	• IIT, Chennai • Kamarajar Port Limited, Ennore • South East CEOs' Conclave, Chennai
2.	Mangalore on 10.09.2026	• MMD Mangalore
3.	Mangalore on 11.09.2026	• Updpi Cochin Shipyard Limited , Udupi
4.	Mangalore on 12.09.2026	• Mangalore Marine College and Technology • New Mangalore Port • New Mangalore Cruise Terminal

PHOTO GALLERY



Meeting with the Director, I.I.T. Chennai on 22.07.2026.

PHOTO GALLERY

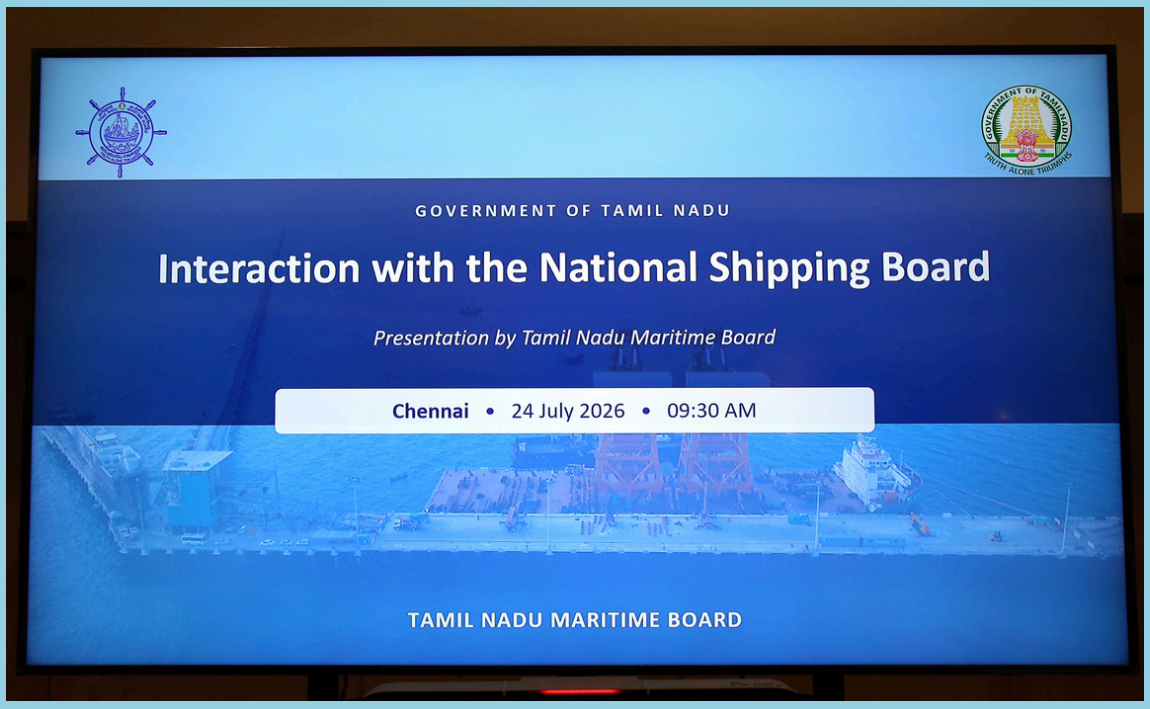


Prize Distribution at the South-East CEO's Conclave on 22.07.2026 at Chennai.



Meeting with the Officials of the Kamarajar port Limited on 22.07.2026 at Ennore.

PHOTO GALLERY



Meeting of the National Shipping Board at Chennai on 23-24.07.2026.



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PHOTO GALLERY



Event “Sagar Samvad” on 25.08.2026 at CSOI, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.



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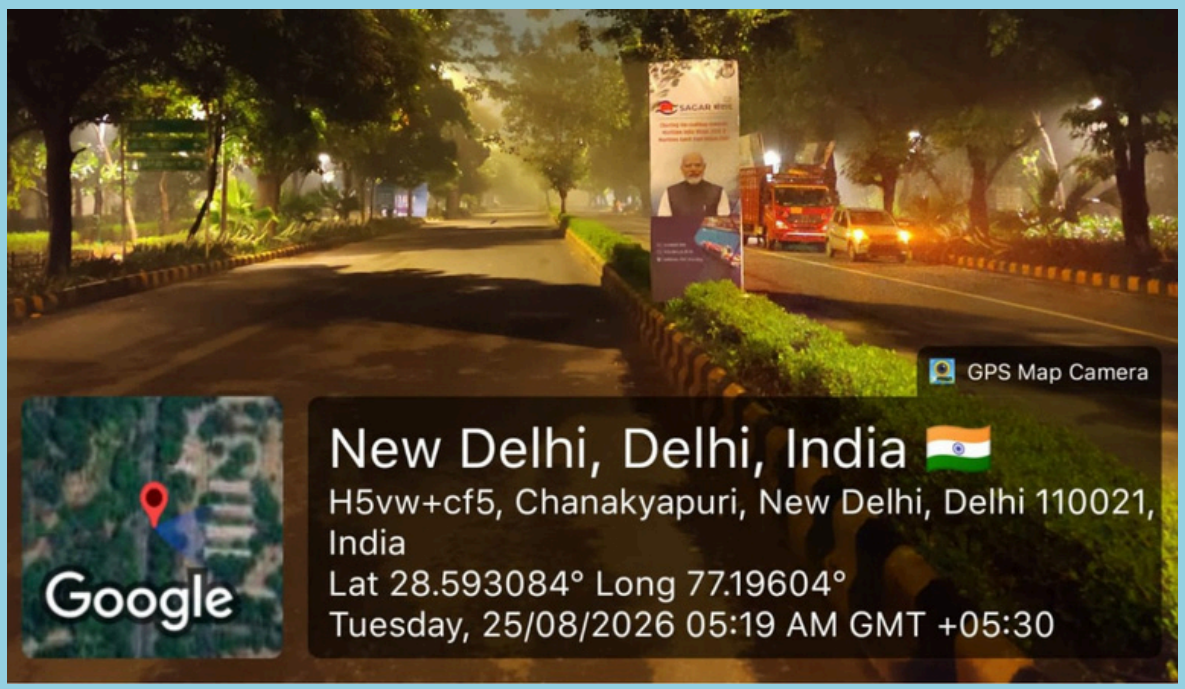


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Event “Sagar Samvad” on 25.08.2026 at CSOI, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.

PHOTO GALLERY



Meeting on the National Shipping Board at Mangaluru on 09-11.09.2026.



Meeting on the National Shipping Board at Mangaluru on 09-11.09.2026.

PHOTO GALLERY



Meeting on the National Shipping Board at Mangaluru on 09-11.09.2026.



Meeting on the National Shipping Board at Mangaluru on 09-11.09.2026.

PHOTO GALLERY



Meeting with the Official of MMD Mangaluru at Mangaluru on 10.09.2026.



Meeting with the Official of the Udupi-CSL at Udupi on 11.09.2026.

PHOTO GALLERY



Meeting with the Faculty of the Mangaluru Maritime College & Technology on 12.09.2026.



Meeting with the Faculty of the Mangaluru Maritime College & Technology on 12.09.2026.

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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