# SMART LINKS

Your Monthly Dive into Shipping, Logistics & Beyond

# **ECHOES OF TRIUMPH**

Celebrating SMG's recent twin awards at SECC 2025.

# SUSTAINABILITY FIRST

India's first green hydrogen plant at Kandla

# HISTORY REVISITED

Beavercove's 1947 voyage remembered.

# **POLICY WATCH**

India's Maritime Vision 2030

# CORPORATE COMPASS EDIT







# DEAR READERS,

Like tides that carry ships to new horizons, every edition at Smart Marine Group brings fresh stories of progress, resilience, and vision. This month, our sails are filled with achievement, community, and innovation – and we're delighted to share them with you.

At the heart of our journey are our people. From Malaysia, where our team bonded with Joint Managing Director Mr. Krishna Kumar, to Mumbai, celebrating 11 years of excellence, and to Chennai, where Maxx Fortune Lines unveiled its new headquarters, our story is powered by camaraderie and spirit.

We also remain anchored in giving back. Through Smart Cares, we were humbled to support a young student in Chennai, on his educational journey – a reminder that beyond ships and cargo, people define our purpose.

Globally, maritime trade continues to transform economies: India pushing freight from road to rail, Oman's ports boosting Gulf growth, and Singapore debuting the world's first ammonia bunkering vessel. Innovation too finds a proud place in our deck log. Our twin triumph at SECC 2025 - NVOCC of the Year (by Volume) and Most Diversified Business, reflects our drive to reimagine logistics with agility, digital edge, and sustainable practices.

Our Social Snapshot Wall captured stories behind the milestones, Chennai Day's cultural vibrance, Maxx Fortune's electric inauguration, and Smart Container Lines Malaysia's global reach, keeping us connected, transparent, and human in the digital space.

We also reflect on history. From the 1947 voyage of Beavercove to the 111th anniversary of the Panama Canal and Cochin Shipyard's expansion, maritime trade continues to shape past, present, and future. The spirit of discovery lives on in our Maritime Explorers Club, inviting young readers to see the world through shipping's lens.

Thank you for sailing with us. Together, we will continue to ride the waves of change, anchor new milestones, and chart a course toward a sustainable, inclusive, and connected maritime future.

With optimism and resolve,

The Editorial Team

**Smart Marine Group** 



# Secure Your Cargo with Our Top-Tier



Containers

and Reliable Routes







# **INDIAN SUBCONTINENT**

- JEDDAH, SAUDI ARABIA
- SOKHNA, EGYPT
- O DIBOUTI

- PORT SUDAN, SUDAN
- ADEN, YEMEN
- BERBERA, SOMALIA

**ASSURED SPACE COMPETITIVE RATES REAL-TIME TRACKING** FLEET OF CONTAINERS

20ft / 40ft DRY, REEFERS, OPEN TOP, FLAT RACK AND GOH CONTAINERS

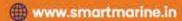
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### 01. SMART MARINE UPDATES

#### Victories, Milestones & New Horizons

From double honours at SECC 2025 to global recognition in Sharjah, 11 strong years in Mumbai, and a bold new Chennai MFL office.

## **02. SOCIAL SNAPSHOT WALL**

#### **Where Stories Meet Scrolls**

From Chennai pride to Malaysia's promo reel and Chennai office vibes, see the moments that moved our online community.

### **03. INTERNATIONAL NEWS**

### **Industry News That Shapes Tomorrow**

From China-Brazil rail ambitions to ammonia-fuel vessels in Japan & Singapore, read updates making waves in maritime trade.

## 04. REGIONAL NEWS

#### India's Trade in Transition

Rail freight expansion, green hydrogen at Kandla, and private port milestones, India's logistics landscape is on the move.

# **05. PROJECT & BREAKBULK**

#### Mega Deals, Mega Moves

Pipeline JVs, LNG dual-fuel carriers & automotive capacity growth, spotlighting the projects driving heavy-lift & breakbulk cargo.

# **06. MARITIME HISTORY SNAP**

#### When Beavercove Set Sail

Reliving the 1947 launch of Beavercove, a cargo giant that marked a turning point in post-war maritime trade.

## **07. GLOBAL MARITIME EVENTS**

#### **Your Calendar of Industry Must-Attends**

From Rotterdam to Houston and Singapore to Hyderabad, discover the conferences shaping the future of shipping.

## 08. CHART OF THE MONTH

#### India's Trade Seesaw Explained

A data-driven snapshot of India's foreign trade balance and its impact on growth and resilience.

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#### **Iron Ore & Ocean Giants**

A young readers' corner exploring how iron ore fuels global steel and rides the waves on massive cargo ships.

## 10. SPOTLIGHT STORIES

#### Panama Canal Turns 111 & Cochin Expands

Marking global milestones with Panama's century-plus connectivity and Cochin Shipyard's modern ship repair boost.



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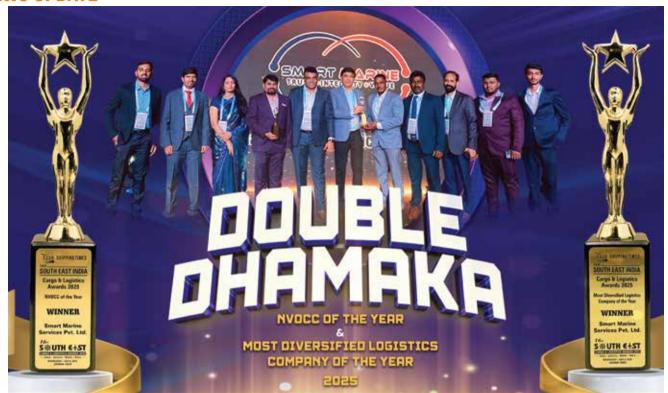
- Seamless customs clearance
- Real-time tracking with updates 🗹
- Dedicated cargo handling experts 🗹

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SEPTEMBER 2025





# **Smart Marine Group Clinches Double Victory at SECC 2025**

In a remarkable achievement, **Smart Marine Group** was honoured with **two prestigious awards** at the **16th South East CEO Conclave & Awards 2025**, held at the iconic **ITC Grand Chola** in Chennai.

The company received accolades for:

- NVOCC of the Year (by Volume)
- Most Diversified Business Award

The awards were presented in recognition of Smart Marine Group's outstanding performance in the non-vessel operating common carrier (NVOCC) sector and its strategic expansion into multiple business verticals.

Accepting the awards on behalf of the company were Managing Director Mr. K S Kandasamy, Director Ms. Poorna Lakshmi, and General Manager Mr. Badrinath, who represented the organization at the high-profile event attended by top industry leaders and executives.

The **South East CEO Conclave & Awards** is widely regarded as one of the most prestigious industry platforms, celebrating excellence and innovation in global trade and logistics. Winning two titles on such a stage underscores **Smart Marine Group's growing influence in the maritime sector**.

Leadership further emphasized that these honors are a reflection of the **collective effort of every Smartian**, whose dedication and resilience continue to steer the company toward greater success.



# A Day of Togetherness - Malaysian Team Connects with JMD Mr. Krishna Kumar

Selangor, Malaysia



The Smart Container Lines (Malaysia) SDN BHD team recently shared a memorable evening with our Joint Managing Director, Mr. Krishna Kumar, in a heartfelt gathering that celebrated camaraderie, unity, and team spirit.

What started as a casual team outing turned into a **day to remember**, filled with laughter, conversations, and a strong sense of family. The occasion served as a reminder of the deep bond that connects our teams across regions, built on mutual respect, shared goals, and genuine togetherness.

The evening concluded with a delightful dinner at **The Malay Hotel**, where stories were exchanged and memories made. The **Malaysia team expressed heartfelt gratitude** for the gracious presence of Mr. Krishna Kumar, whose visit added meaning and motivation to the occasion.

Here's to stronger teams, shared moments, and the spirit that keeps us moving forward - together!

# Fortune Shipping & Logistics Joins The Rise UAE – Sharjah Chapter Launch

Sharjah, UAE



A proud and memorable moment for **Fortune Shipping** and **Logistics LLC**, **Dubai**, as the team participated in the launch of **The Rise UAE – Sharjah Chapter**, a prestigious event celebrating **Tamil excellence**, **enterprise**, and global collaboration.

Held to foster the spirit of unity and opportunity, the event brought together Tamil professionals, business leaders, and cultural ambassadors under one roof. Representing Fortune Shipping, **VP Mr. Gunaseelan** and **Director Mr. Kannan** attended the event and were **honored with awards** in recognition of their contributions.

As a company committed to **enabling trade and empowering growth**, Fortune Shipping proudly supports platforms that connect **minds, cultures, and businesses.** 

Together, we rise.

# Smart Marine Services – Mumbai Office Marks 11 Years of Operational Excellence

Mumbai, August 2025

Smart Marine Services' Mumbai office celebrated its 11th anniversary, marking over a decade of commitment, growth, and operational excellence in one of India's key maritime hubs.

The occasion served as a proud moment for the organization, recognizing the **Mumbai team's consistent dedication, resilience, and teamwork** that have been pivotal to its success since inception.

In a message of appreciation, leadership acknowledged the team's role in achieving this milestone and expressed optimism for the future. "This anniversary is not just a celebration of years, but of the people, progress, and passion that built it. We're excited for the milestones that lie ahead," said a company spokesperson.

With continued support from stakeholders and a clear vision for the future, the Mumbai office is well-positioned for many more years of success in the dynamic world of shipping and logistics.

Here's to more milestones and a future filled with possibilities!





Chennai, August 3, 2025

In a landmark moment for the freight forwarding and logistics industry, Maxx Fortune Lines Pvt. Ltd., part of the Smart Marine Group, celebrated the inauguration of its newly owned corporate office at 3B2, Gaiety Palace, Chennai. This milestone marks not just a physical expansion, but a bold statement of the company's commitment to excellence, innovation, and global connectivity.

#### A Day of Tradition and Vision

The celebrations began at dawn with a traditional pooja ceremony, invoking divine blessings prosperity and success. At exactly 11:00 AM, the ceremonial ribbon was cut by the younger next generation and future visionaries of the company, symbolizing the continuity of leadership and the promise of a thriving future.

The air buzzed with cheers, floral fragrances, and heartfelt camaraderie as employees, leaders, and global partners gathered to witness the moment. Among the distinguished attendees were officials from port logistics authorities, partners,

industry associations, and key dignitaries from the Smart Marine Group's international network.

#### **Leaders Speak on the Milestone**

Krishna Founder Mr. Kumar, Director of Smart Marine Group, expressed gratitude to all who contributed to the company's journey:

"This milestone reflects our belief in our people, our purpose, and our unwavering commitment to excellence in global logistics. Maxx Fortune Lines now has a space it can truly call its own - a home that will drive our collective vision forward."

SMART LINKS

**Mr. Kandasamy**, Managing Director, emphasized Chennai's strategic role:

"Chennai is the pulse of our global operations and a vital anchor for Maxx Fortune Lines. This new office is more than an infrastructure upgrade - it is a reaffirmation of our role as a trusted logistics partner, ready for transformational growth."

Adding a commercial perspective, **Mr. Promod**, Commercial Head of Maxx Fortune Lines, stated:

"This facility will serve as a launchpad for deeper regional connectivity and accelerated global reach. We are building a stronger local presence to be closer to our clients and deliver world-class operational efficiency."

# **Powering Global Trade with Precision**

Founded in 2013, Maxx Fortune Lines has grown into a globally connected logistics solutions provider, delivering end-to-end freight services across industries including agriculture, pharmaceuticals, construction, e-commerce, and food exports.

Its service portfolio spans ocean and air freight forwarding, reefer logistics, project cargo handling, container trading and leasing, multimodal transport, customs clearance, and cross-border operations. Membership in WCA, MTO, JC Trans, MSME, and PPL Networks ensures compliance with international standards and enables access to an extensive global partner network.

# The Strategic Role of the New Chennai Office

This **modern headquarters** is designed to bring operational, commercial, and customer service teams under one roof — boosting synergy, fostering collaboration, and enhancing decision-making. Strategically located in Chennai's logistics hub, it is set to serve as a **central command for India and a bridge to global markets.** 

As trade corridors evolve and customer expectations rise, Maxx Fortune Lines is ready to deliver faster, more reliable, and more transparent logistics solutions — moving not just cargo, but the future of trade.





# Smart Cares Charitable Fund Extends Education Aid to 5th Grade Student in Chennai

In its ongoing mission to support education, **Smart Cares Charitable Fund** has provided financial assistance for first-term school fees to **Master Logesh**, a 5th standard student studying at Ramakrishna Mission Higher Secondary School, Chennai.

The aid was granted to his father, Mr. R. Sivaprakasam on his behalf by Poorna Lakshmi, Director of Smart Marine Group. This was part of the organization's efforts to ensure that no child's learning journey is interrupted due to financial barriers.

Smart Cares continues to empower young minds, one step at a time, reaffirming its belief that **education** is the foundation for a brighter future.



# THE SOCIAL SNAPSHOT WALL

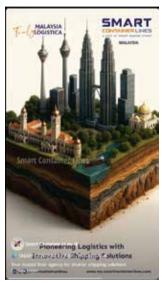
#### **Your Monthly Dose of Scroll-Stoppers & Show-Stealers**

Social media isn't just about likes, it's about stories that resonate and moments that leave a mark online.

Take a scroll through the posts that made waves.



#### WHEN REACH WENT OVERBOARD



Logistics is tough. But in this reel? It looked smooth as a tide.

#### Why it Worked?

- Clear message, zero jargon
- Services explained like a story
- Professional yet a human touch



Smart Container Lines Malaysia dropped a promo that was more than just services. From global trade routes to SOC flexibility, the video showed that moving cargo isn't complicated.

# in

### VISUALS THAT SPOKE LOUDER THAN WE THOUGHT OF

Doors opened. Energy high. Maxx Fortune Lines is officially in Chennai!



#### Why it Worked?

- Short, punchy, and energetic
- Emotional storytelling
- Highlights growth + corporate culture



From the morning pooja to the ribbon-cutting, the vibe was electric. The post captured every moment that reflected gratitude, vision, and a crew ready to chart bold new waters.



## PORTS, PRIDE & PURE CHENNAI ENERGY)

Marina waves, roaring trade, and a city that never stops hustling. Chennai Day had us all vibing.



#### Why it Worked?

- Local pride meets global trade
- Heritage + Maritime vibes blend
- Homegrown, World-class Al video



Chennai is more than a dot on the map, it's where culture and commerce shake hands daily. This post celebrated a city that doesn't just hold history but ships it worldwide



### A REEL THAT MOVED NOT JUST US BUT EVERYONE

Justice with a heart. Compassion on the bench. Not the usual courtroom drama.



#### Why it Worked?

- Heartfelt storytelling
- A personal journey + global impact
- Inspiration of reflection and empathy

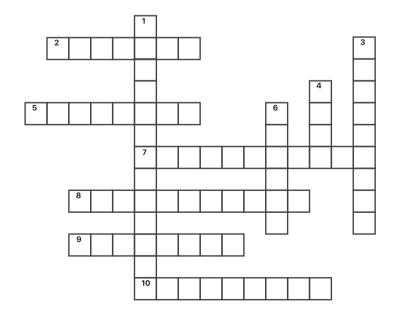
Frank Caprio (1936–2025) was the nicest judge in the world. The video tribute captures a life that didn't just uphold the law, it inspired kindness, laughter, and service worldwide.







# **SMART MIND GAME**



# QUICK HINTS FOR THE KEEN FINDER

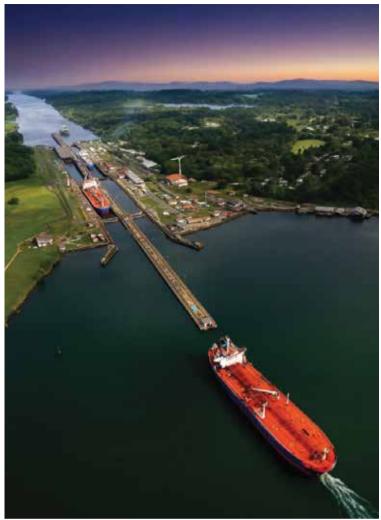
#### Across

- 2. Maximum cargo weight a container may carry. [7]
- 5. Interior wall, sometimes fitted for special cargoes. [8]
- 7. Rust-resistant metal used in container walls. [11]
- 8. Transverse support beam beneath container floor. [11]
- 9. Official list detailing all containers onboard. [8]
- 10. Recess in frame for specialized trailer fitting. [9]

#### **Down**

- 1. Steel fitting at container's corners for stacking. [13]
- Mechanical device securing containers during transport. [8]
- 4. Empty container's weight. [4]
- 6. Flexible seal around doors to keep watertight. [6]





# China-Brazil Railway Project Rival Panama Canal

China and Brazil signed an MoU for a "Two-Ocean Railway" connecting Brazil's Atlantic coast with Chancay Port in Peru. The corridor aims to cut shipping times and facilitate trade between Asia and South America. COSCO's \$1.3B investment in Chancay Port complements the rail initiative as an alternative to the Panama Canal.

# World's First Ammonia Bunkering Vessel in Singapore

Itochu Corporation has signed a deal to build the world's first ammonia bunkering vessel, a 5,000 cu metre tanker to be deployed in Singapore by 2027. Built by Sasaki Shipbuilding and equipped with a tank from Izumi Steel Works, the vessel will enable safe offshore ship-to-ship ammonia fueling. Operated by Clean Ammonia Bunkering Shipping (CABS), a Singapore-based subsidiary, the project is part of a broader Japanese government-backed initiative.



# Gemini Launches Qingdao -Middle East Service

Gemini Cooperation, the shipping alliance between Maersk and Hapag-Lloyd, has expanded its Jebel Ali–Far East service to include a new route connecting Qingdao and the Middle East. This marks the alliance's fourth service at Qingdao Port, with eight large container ships in deployment. So far in 2025, Qingdao Port has welcomed 11 new container services, setting a record, featuring routes to Belt and Road nations, the US West and East Coasts, and South America.

# MPC Container Ships Orders Four 4,500 TEU Vessels at Taizhou Sanfu

MPC Container Ships has placed a \$228 million order with Taizhou Sanfu Ship Engineering in China for four 4,500 TEU container vessels, with deliveries slated from the second half of 2027. Each ship will operate under a three-year time charter with an undisclosed global liner company. The deal includes options for additional vessels, providing MPC with scalability to align with future market opportunities.

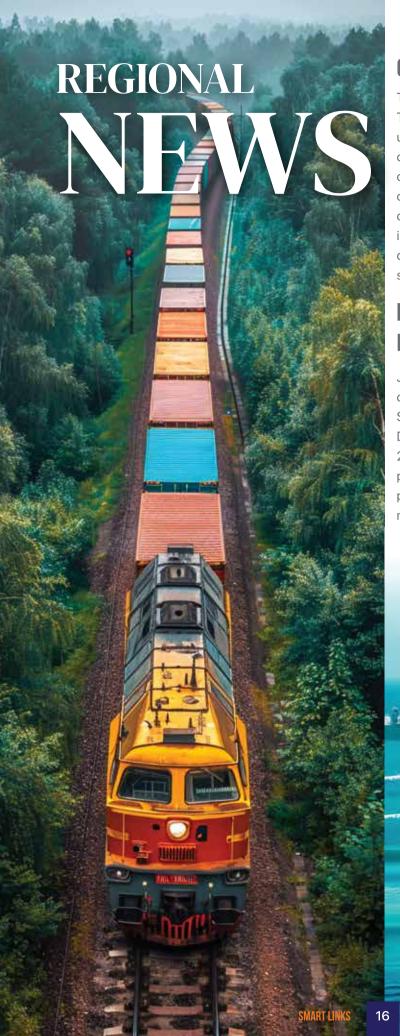
# **Maersk Expands Services as Mekong Grows**

The Mekong logistics market is forecast to climb from USD 7.8 billion in 2025 to USD 12.5 billion by 2030, at a CAGR of 8.2% (Mordor Intelligence). Infrastructure upgrades in road, rail, and inland waterways are strengthening connections between production hubs and export markets. In response, Maersk has introduced a weekly barge to Yangon, expanded air volumes via Nokia, and is accelerating solar exports to the US ahead of tariff changes.

# **Oman Ports Lead Gulf Cargo Growth**

In the first half of 2025, Gulf ports, especially within Oman, achieved new highs in project and general cargo traffic. The ports of Salalah, Sohar, and Duqm jointly handled 2.4 million TEUs and over 70 million tonnes of cargo, marking a 5.2% growth from last year. Ship arrivals rose by over 11% versus 2024 as the Sultanate's robust infrastructure programs and innovation initiatives continue to attract more and larger vessels.





# **Govt Plans Massive Rail Freight Push**

The government plans to build 200 Gati Shakti Cargo Terminals (GCTs) along Dedicated Freight Corridors under a public-private partnership model. Each terminal, costing around ₹70 Crore, will boost rail freight efficiency and reduce logistics costs. With 77 GCTs already in operation, the plan aligns with DFCCIL's target to complete the Western DFC by December 2025. The initiative supports a modal shift in transport, currently dominated by road (46%) over rail (26%), and aims to streamline India's logistics infrastructure.

# India's 2nd-Largest Private Port Operator Eyes 1M TEU

JSW Infrastructure Ltd has won a ₹740 Crore PPP contract to develop container Berths 7 & 8 at Netaji Subhash Dock, Kolkata. The 30-year project, on a DBFOT basis, allows operations to begin during the 2-year construction period. This expands JSWIL's presence on India's eastern coast and grows its container portfolio, pushing its total container capacity close to 1 million TEUs, aligning with India's Maritime Vision and



# India's Push to Shift Cargo from Road to Rail initiated

To promote bulk cargo movement by rail, CONCOR is set to procure 1,000 specialized tank containers for cement transport. It has already received 90 containers from PSU Braithwaite. The first rake, carrying 2,199 tonnes of cement from Maha Cement in Andhra Pradesh, was flagged off to ICD Whitefield, Bengaluru. Hyderabad-based My Home Cement is the first client to benefit from this modal shift initiative, which supports India's logistics efficiency and sustainability goals.

# Indian Ship Recycling Yards Dominate Global Market

Indian recycling yards in **Alang** extended their lead with the arrival of three large vessels, the Inda tanker, Enterprise container ship, and Techno LNG carrier, adding nearly **70,000 ldt**. This milestone pushed India's recycling bank past 100,000 ldt. According to GMS, India now has ten times more HKC-approved yards than rivals Bangladesh and Pakistan.

# Kandla Port - India's First 1 MW Green Hydrogen Plant

In a historic energy milestone, the Deendayal Port Authority (DPA) at Kandla, Gujarat, has commissioned India's first Make-in-India 1 MW Green Hydrogen Plant, inaugurated virtually by Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal. Built by Indian engineers, the plant sets a new benchmark for Aatma-Nirbhar Bharat and builds on DPA's Green Tug success, strengthening India's role in sustainable maritime operations.

# Indian Navy Commissions INS Himgiri with BrahMos Missiles

The Indian Navy has inducted **INS Himgiri**, a Nilgiri-class stealth frigate built by GRSE under Project 17A. Commissioned on July 31, 2025, the warship is equipped with **BrahMos missiles**, **LR-SAMs**, **anti-submarine torpedoes**, **and advanced sensors**, boosting India's indigenous naval capabilities and strengthening its maritime dominance.





# PROJECT CARGO

Transporting cargo as large as a small house comes with its own set of challenges. When this project needed to move from Vietnam to Australia, FLS Vietnam and FLS Australia managed the entire journey with precision, ensuring it met both project and local requirements.

With the largest piece measuring 9,550 x 9,550 x 5,300 mm, the cargo required careful coordination in Dung Quat, where overhead cables were lifted to clear the route before inland transport, port

handling, and vessel chartering could proceed.

But the bigger challenge came upon arrival. In Adelaide, the shipment was discharged at a Cruise/Ro-Ro terminal, where perimeter fencing had to be removed to allow exit. From there, the transport route required a tailored traffic plan: traffic lights, signage, and wig wags were temporarily dismantled, police escorts ensuring a safe and compliant passage to the site.

As a result, this critical break bulk shipment arrived



safely at its final destination. It is a reflection of the commitment we bring to every project, no matter the size or complexity.



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# **BREAK BULK**

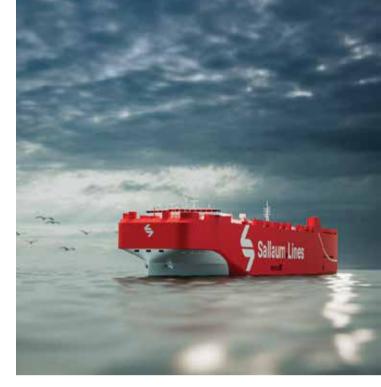
# ACWA Power Signs US\$4B Deal for Kuwait's Largest IWPP

Saudi-based ACWA Power, in partnership with Gulf Investment Corporation (GIC), has signed a US\$4 billion agreement to build the Az-Zour North Phase 2 & 3 IWPP, Kuwait's largest integrated power and water facility. With a generation capacity of 2,700 MW and production of 120 million gallons/day of desalinated water, the facility will be developed under a 25-year BOT model, with ownership transferring to the Kuwaiti government by 2029. The project will create jobs for Kuwaiti talent, strengthen infrastructure resilience, and ensure sustainable water and energy supply, supporting Kuwait's Vision 2035 and long-term economic prosperity.



# DP World Expands Automotive Capacity at Jebel Ali Port

DP World has opened a **2.6 million sq. ft. vehicle storage yard at Terminal 4 in Jebel Ali Port**, enhancing Dubai's automotive trade infrastructure. The expansion, which includes an **800-metre quay for three RoRo vessels**, adds **13,000 CEUs**, raising total capacity by 21% to **75,000 CEUs**. With vehicle volumes rising, **545,000 handled in H1 2025, up 28% year-on-year**, the move supports Dubai's growing role as a global automotive hub. Imports from **China, Japan, Thailand, India, and South Korea** lead the trade. The initiative forms part of DP World's wider automotive strategy, including a planned **20 million sq. ft. advanced car market,** the largest in the world.



# Sallaum Takes Delivery of First LNG Dual-Fuel PCTC

Sallaum Lines has taken delivery of the first in a new series of six LNG dual-fuel pure car and truck carriers (PCTCs), underscoring its commitment to sustainable fleet modernization. The 200-meter-long ABS-classed ship features 13 vehicle decks capable of carrying up to 7,500 CEUs (car equivalent units), including conventional vehicles, new energy vehicles (NEVs), and packaged hazardous cargo. The newbuild forms part of Sallaum's strategy to expand its China-focused global logistics network, supported by the opening of a new Shanghai office. By investing in greener vessels, Sallaum is strengthening partnerships with Chinese OEMs while reducing its carbon footprint in global shipping.

# Boskalis-Allseas JV Wins €1.2B Taiwan Gas Pipeline Deal

Boskalis and Allseas, in a 50/50 joint venture, have secured a €1.2 billion contract from CPC Corporation to build the 232-km YT2 natural gas pipeline in Taiwan. The project, set for 2026–2028, will run from the Yongan LNG terminal in the south to the Tongxiao station in the north. Boskalis will handle landfalls, trenching, and rock installation, while Allseas will manage offshore pipelaying. The project is key to Taiwan's energy security and LNG transition strategy.



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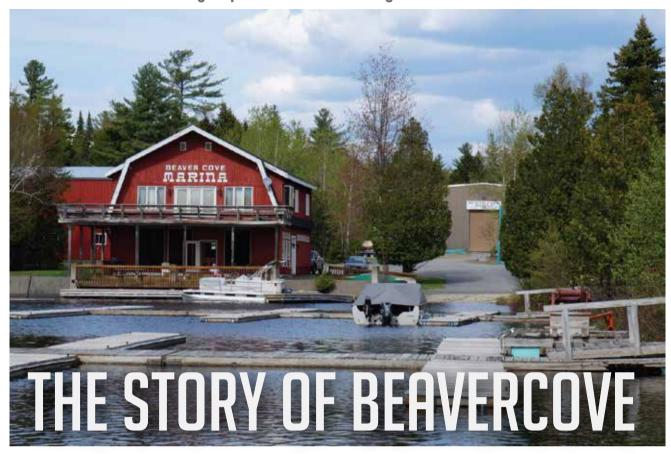
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# **MARITIME HISTORY SNAP**

# Fascinating Ships that once ruled the global maritime trade



Imagine standing on the dock in 1947 and watching a sleek new cargo ship glide into the water. Her name was **Beavercove**, and at nearly 500 feet long, she was a giant for her time. Built just after World War II, she was part of a new generation of merchant cargo ships that blended wartime technology with peacetime trade.

# A Modern Marvel of Her Day

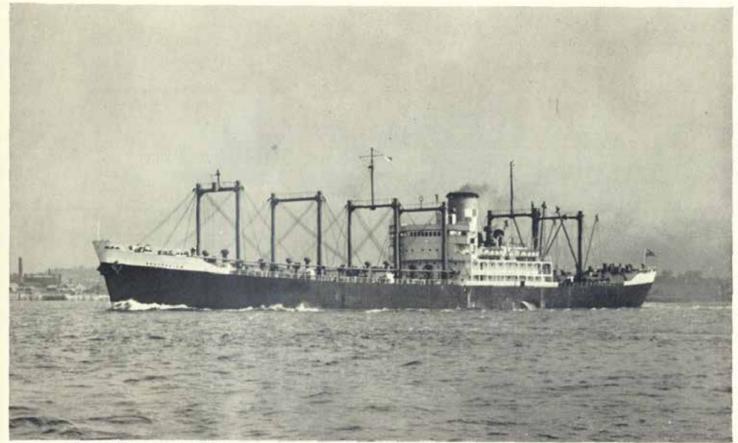
Beavercove belonged to the Canadian Pacific Steamship Company, a branch of the famous Canadian Pacific Railway. Just like the trains carried goods across land, these ships carried cargo across oceans - making sure products, food, and raw materials reached the right ports around the world.

Beavercove weighed in at **9,824 gross tons** and stretched **497.5 feet** from bow to stern - about one

and a half football fields long! With a **beam (width)** of 64 feet, she had plenty of space to carry almost **10,000 tons of cargo**.

What really made her special was her **turbo-electric engine system**. Instead of a regular steam engine turning the propeller directly, Beavercove's steam turbines powered an electric motor that drove the propeller. This made the ship more efficient, easier to handle, and quite modern for the late 1940s.





Canadian Pacific Cargo Liner Beaverglen; sister ships Beaverlake, Beaverdell and Beavercove

## A Ship With Many Names

Over her career, Beavercove had a few "identity changes." In 1952, she was renamed Maplecove, only to switch back to Beavercove in 1956. Later, when she was sold to an Italian company, she became Giovanna Costa. Ships often changed names when they were sold, just like athletes sometimes change jerseys when they join a new team.

# **Her Sister Ships**

Beavercove wasn't alone. She had three sister ships -Beaverdell, Beaverglen, and Beaverlake. All four were built by Lithgows Ltd. in Scotland, each slightly different but sharing the same advanced design. Together, they formed a fleet that kept Canadian trade strong in the years after World War II.

## The End of the Voyage

Every ship has a final journey. For Beavercove, it came in 1971, when she was sent to La Spezia, Italy, to be broken up for scrap. By then, newer and larger cargo ships had taken over, but her contribution to maritime history was already made.

## **Fun Facts to Know**

- The Beavercove was part of the first wave of postwar cargo ships built for Canadian Pacific. showing how quickly shipping evolved after WWII.
- At full length, she was longer than the Statue of Liberty is tall (305 feet)!
- Turbo-electric propulsion, like Beavercove had, is still used today in some modern cruise ships and naval vessels.

# **Why This Matters for Future Mariners:**

Ships like Beavercove represent how technology and trade go hand in hand. Every new design - whether in 1947 or today shapes the future of global shipping. If you dream of becoming a maritime professional, knowing the past gives you insight into how innovation keeps the world connected across the seas.



**SMART LINKS** 

# **GLOBAL MARITIME EVENTS**

# RAHSTA 2025 - Asia's Biggest Road Exhibition

Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai | September 3-4

After the resounding success of its 2024 edition. RAHSTA (Roads and Highways Sustainable Technologies & Advancement) is back—bigger and bolder. Organized by the FIRST Construction Council, the two-day exhibition is India's premier platform for road infrastructure innovation.

With a sharp focus on sustainable technologies, smart practices, and advanced machinery, RAHSTA 2025 brings together industry leaders, experts, and innovators to reimagine how roads are built and maintained. Expect thought-provoking discussions, hands-on demos, and a showcase of cutting-edge solutions that will pave the way for a cleaner, greener, and more connected future.



#### Cold Chain Unbroken 2025





Cold Chain Unbroken (CCUB) 2025 stands as the premier global forum for temperature-controlled logistics. From life-saving pharmaceuticals to perishable goods, the event addresses one of the most critical supply chain challenges of our time, keeping the cold chain intact.

This two-day summit brings together stakeholders, innovators, and decision-makers to explore sustainable solutions, cutting-edge technologies, and global best practices. More than just an exhibition, CCUB fosters collaboration to build a resilient, efficient, and future-ready cold chain ecosystem - meeting the growing demand for temperature-sensitive cargo worldwide.





# Seafood Marketplace for Asia 2025

Sands Expo & Convention Centre, Singapore | September 10–12

Seafood Expo Asia 2025 is where the global seafood industry meets the booming Asian market. Produced by Diversified, this premier trade event connects international buyers and suppliers in one of the world's most dynamic hubs for seafood trade.

SMART LINKS

### **Global Maritime Week 2025**

Rotterdam, The Netherlands | September 23-25

Theme: Sustainable, Secure & Smart: The Future of Global Maritime Logistics

One of the world's most influential maritime summits, Global Maritime Week 2025 brings together over 1,000 participants, 200+ companies, and 35+ global speakers at the heart of Europe's shipping hub. From Maersk to the IMO, and from MSC Cruises to the Port of Amsterdam, the lineup reflects the industry's leaders tackling today's biggest challenges.



Expect deep dives into alternative fuels, smart ports, cybersecurity, regulatory frameworks, and global partnerships—all under one roof in Rotterdam. Recognized as a powerhouse for collaboration and innovation, this is the event where the future of maritime logistics is shaped.

## **Argus Sustainable Marine Fuels Conference 2025**

Houston, Texas, USA | September 10-12

The Argus Sustainable Marine Fuels Conference is set to unite senior stakeholders from across the marine fuels value chain for three days of networking and knowledge exchange. With the global maritime sector pushing towards decarbonization, this event offers critical insights into market dynamics, regulatory shifts, and the future of sustainable bunkering solutions.

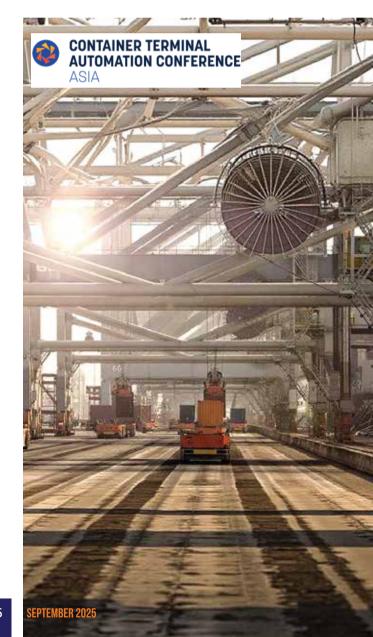
The conference provides direct access to industry perspectives, Argus insights, and premier global connection

# Container Terminal Automation Conference Asia 2025

Sheraton Imperial Kuala Lumpur Hotel, Malaysia | September 8-9

For the first time, Port Technology's flagship Container Terminal Automation Conference (CTAC) comes to Asia, creating a dedicated hub for terminal innovation. Over two days, industry leaders, port authorities, and technology experts will converge to explore how the world's top terminals are becoming faster, safer, and more sustainable.

Expect expert-led keynotes, strategic panels, and real-world case studies on automation, digitalisation, cybersecurity, connectivity, and sustainability. Beyond the sessions, CTAC Asia offers unmatched networking opportunities, including a highlight drinks reception to foster meaningful industry connections.



# **CHART OF THE MONTH**

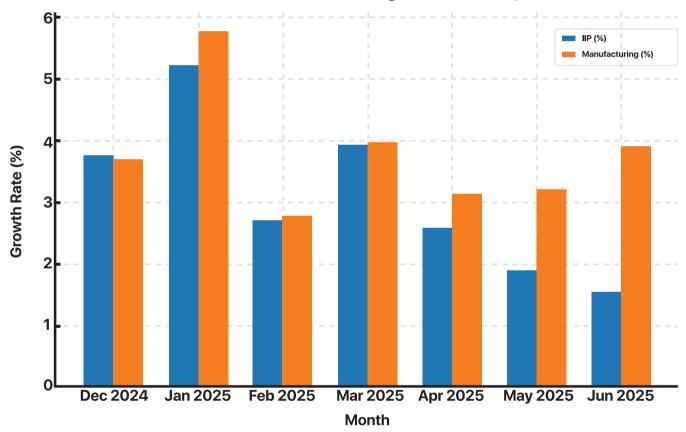
# **BREAKING DOWN A TREND VISUALLY**

# India's Growth Pulse: Balancing Industry and Trade

The Indian Economy - Tested by Challenges, but steadily Moving Forward

India's economic journey is never a straight road, it's a winding path marked by ups, downs, and surprising turns. The recent data on industrial growth and foreign trade between December 2024 and July 2025 paints a telling picture of the country's growth momentum.

## **Industrial vs Manufacturing Growth Comparison**



The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) and manufacturing growth. Two key barometers of industrial activity show that India's factories are still running, but not at full throttle.

The IIP peaked at 5.21% in January 2025, reflecting strong post-festival demand and a seasonal pickup.

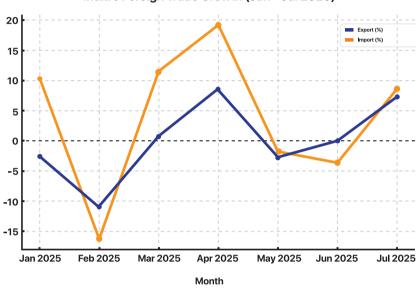
However, by June 2025, growth had slowed to just 1.52%, the lowest in seven months.

Manufacturing followed a similar trend, with growth moderating from 5.77% in January to 3.89% in June.

This suggests that while demand within the economy is alive, it's uneven. The strong showing in January and March highlights India's potential, but the gradual slowdown raises concerns about sustainability. Rising costs, global uncertainty, and slower export orders could all be playing a role.

# Foreign Trade

#### India's Foreign Trade Growth (Jan - Jul 2025)



India's foreign trade tells a different but equally revealing story. Exports and imports—the lifelines of global commerce—moved like a seesaw during these months.

Exports dipped sharply in February 2025 (-11.06%), one of the worst contractions in recent years, before bouncing back with 8.59% growth in April and 7.29% in July.

Imports, meanwhile, were highly volatile: a deep contraction of -16.33% in February was followed by strong rebounds in March (+11.35%) and April (+19.11%).

What does this mean? The negative export months reflect weaker global demand for Indian goods, especially in developed markets wrestling with inflation and slower consumption. Imports, however, surged when domestic industries stocked up on raw materials and energy, signaling resilience at home.

# What It All Means for India's Growth Story

The combined picture of industry and trade suggests three big takeaways:

#### **Resilient Manufacturing Backbone**

Despite headwinds, India's manufacturing has consistently stayed positive - an encouraging sign that domestic demand is cushioning the slowdown in global markets.

#### **Global Headwinds, Local Momentum**

Exports remain vulnerable to international conditions, but India's ability to bounce back quickly shows that competitiveness is improving. The strong rebound in April and July demonstrates the adaptability of Indian exporters.

#### **Policy Implications**

With IIP growth slowing, policymakers may need to boost capital spending and incentivize industrial output. Trade fluctuations highlight the need to diversify export markets and reduce dependence on a few sectors.

## The Road Ahead

India's economy is at an interesting crossroads. The numbers suggest short-term pressures, but also reveal a foundation of long-term resilience. If industrial growth is stabilized and trade is strategically diversified, India could turn these fluctuations into an opportunity for stronger, more sustainable growth

As one industry veteran aptly put it, "Volatility is not a sign of weakness—it's a reminder that we're playing in the big league."

And that's exactly where India's economy stands today: tested by challenges, but steadily moving forward.

# **SMART MIND GAME**

#### Across:

2. PAYLOAD, 5. BULKHEAD, 7. CORTENSTEEL, 8. CROSSMEMBER, 9. MANIFEST, 10. GOOSENECK

#### Down:

- 1. CORNERCASTING, 3. TWISTLOCK, 4. TARE,
- 6. GASKET

SEPTEMBER 2025

# **MARITIME EXPLORERS CLUB**



Have you ever looked at a shiny steel bridge, a fast train, or even the bicycle in your garage and wondered: Where does all that steel come from?

The answer: from iron ore – a special kind of rock that gets melted down and turned into steel. And here's the fun part: most of that iron ore has to travel across oceans on giant cargo ships before it can be used!

# **Steel Production = More Iron Ore = More Ships**

Steel is like the bones of modern life. Cities, cars, ships, and even playground swings need it. To make steel, countries import iron ore from places like Australia and Brazil, load it onto ships, and carry it across the sea.

In recent years, steel production has been climbing higher and higher. And guess what? Iron ore imports have gone up right alongside it. The more steel we make, the more ore ships have to carry. Think of it like baking cookies. More Cookies = More Flour.

## When Prices Drop, Ships Get Busy

Here's something cool about economics:

When iron ore prices are high, buyers are cautious. But when prices fall, buyers rush to import more because it's cheaper.

That's exactly what's happening right now. Iron ore prices have dropped since 2021, and imports have surged. For shipping companies, this means more cargo to move and more work for their fleets.

# The Rise of the Giants: Capesize Vessels

Not all ships are the same. Some are small, some are huge, and some are absolutely gigantic.

Handysize: Small, flexible ships to reach many ports.

**Supramax** & **Panamax**: Medium-sized, like delivery trucks of the sea.

Capesize: The kings of the ocean - so big they can't even pass through the Panama Canal. They're called "Capesize" because they must sail around the Cape of Good Hope or Cape Horn.

## **Snappy Shot for Future Ship Captains Like You**

The story of iron ore isn't just about rocks - it's about global connections, powerful ships, and the invisible threads of trade that hold our modern world together. The next time you see a skyscraper or a shiny new car, remember: it may have started its journey as iron ore, sailing across the oceans on one of the world's biggest ships.





YOUR LINK TO THE

# SOUTHEAST ASIAN REGION

CONNECT TO ASIAN MARKETS

with a logistics partner who's already there



# PANAMA CANAL

Celebrates 111 Years of Global Connectivity

On August 15, 2025, the Panama Canal celebrated 111 years of operations, renewing its pledge to a sustainable future through a water strategy that prioritizes public well-being and an operational vision to strengthen the country's logistical competitiveness.

Since its historic inauguration in 1914, marked by the first transit of the steamship Ancón, the canal has not only linked the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans but also reshaped global maritime trade. Over the decades, it has been a vital driver of Panama's economic and social development and a cornerstone of international commerce.

"In 25 years under Panamanian administration, the canal has doubled its capacity, expanded its locks, and fortified its security," the administration noted. "It has evolved from a strategic passage to a model of efficiency, transparency, and technical excellence. Every dollar generated is reinvested to keep this artery beating in service to the world, while any surplus directly benefits the Panamanian people."

The anniversary underscores not just the canal's historic role in trade, but also its forward-looking strategy: embracing water sustainability, environmental stewardship, and innovation to ensure the canal remains a critical link for global supply chains for the next century and beyond.



# COCHIN SHIPYARD EXPANSION - MEGA PROJECTS

DRY DOCK ISRF



1,799 CR | 310m x 75m | 70,000T Aircraft Carrier | 55,000 Tanker 970 CR | 6,000T Shiplift | 6 Dry Berths | 1,500m Outfitting Berth

# **Global Shipbuilding & Repair Hub**

# Cochin Shipyard Expands Capabilities with New Dry Dock & Ship Repair Facility

Kochi, Kerala – Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), a premier PSU under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, has taken a significant leap in India's maritime infrastructure development through two major expansion projects inaugurated on January 17, 2024 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

#### 310m New Dry Dock Project

Built at a cost of ₹1,799 crores, the new dry dock is one of the largest in India, measuring 310m in length and 75m in width. Designed as a dual-purpose facility, it will cater not only to shipbuilding but also to the construction and repair of advanced vessels such as LNG carriers, jack-up rigs,

drill ships, dredgers, and offshore platforms.

With its robust dock floor, the facility can handle aircraft carriers of 70,000 tonnes and merchant vessels of up to 55,000 tonnes, making it a strategic addition to India's maritime capabilities.

#### International Ship Repair Facility (ISRF)

Developed at a cost of ₹970 crores on Willingdon Island, Kochi, the ISRF represents a modernization boost for CSL's ship repair operations. It features a 6,000-tonne shiplift capable of accommodating ships up to 130m x 25m, with six dry berths, six workstations, and 1,500 meters of outfitting berth space. This facility significantly enhances CSL's repair capacity and positions Kochi as a hub for international ship repair services.

#### **International Collaborations**

To strengthen its global presence, CSL has also entered into strategic MoUs with international partners including Fincantieri (Italy), IHC Holland BV, Robert Allan Limited (Canada), Seatrium Le Tourneau, and HD Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering Co. Ltd.. These collaborations span ship design, marine equipment manufacturing, training, and skill development, ensuring CSL stays at the forefront of maritime innovation.

With these landmark projects, Cochin Shipyard is set to play a pivotal role in India's goal of becoming a global maritime hub, further advancing the Atmanirbhar Bharat vision in shipbuilding and ship repair.

