

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

Monthly Summary for the month of August 2025

A. Other Matters/Significant Developments:

1. **Acts:** Parliament enacted **five key Maritime Acts** in the Monsoon Session, which overhauled colonial-era laws. They are the Bills of Lading Act 2025, the Carriage of Goods by Sea Act 2025, the Coastal Shipping Act 2025, the Merchant Shipping Act 2025, and the Indian Ports Act 2025. This is a **historic milestone** for the Ministry as this is the first time that so many important Acts have been passed in one session and these bills were pending for quite some time.
2. **Kamarajar Port (KPL):** Became the first port in India to commence handling of transshipment of cars. The first batch of cars of 550 units of Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, Ltd. Group were handled at the General Cargo Berth on August 27, 2025.
3. **PPP (Public Private Partnership) projects:** Sanction was conveyed to Paradip Port for the following projects:
 - **Development of North Dock Complex-3 (NDC-3) Berth** for handling Dry Bulk Cargo on a Captive basis, at an estimated cost of ₹683 crore.
 - **Mechanization of South Quay Berth (SQB)** on BOT basis, at an estimated cost of ₹499 crore.
 - **Mechanization of Multipurpose Berth (MPB)** on BOT basis, at an estimated cost of ₹631 crore.
4. **Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI):**
 - Ro Pax operations commenced from Nauranga to Dubey Chhapra, UP and from Nasriganj to Panapur, Bihar using the QPOMs which serve as mechanized pontoon bridges during non-flood season.
 - Work for QPOM (Quick Pontoon Opening Mechanism) at 4 locations awarded on August 29, 2025.
 - PMC services for Regional Waterways Grid (RWG) Project under JMVP (NW-1) awarded on August 29, 2025.
5. For the projects under the **Sagarmala** scheme (FY 2025-26), approximately ₹257.80 crore has been released till August 2025 in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Gujarat, Goa, Kerala, Odisha, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.
6. **Leveraging Technology in the Directorate General of Shipping (DGS):** Key initiatives of the DGS viz. (i) A revamped GIGW compliant website that will enhance accessibility for seafarers, ship-owners, training institutes, and other

stakeholders (ii) Phase-1 rollout of the **e-Samudra digital platform**, which aims to unify more than 60 maritime services under one digital roof, were launched.

7. **MAR-a-thon: A Hackathon in Maritime Sector under Sagarmala Start-up Innovation (S2I2) Initiative** was launched on August 25, 2025 at IIT Madras to promote innovation in the Maritime Sector in association with NTCPWC, IIT Madras. A list of problem statements contributed by MoPSW organisations was unveiled to promote research and innovation in the maritime sector and to encourage the start-up ecosystem to develop innovative solutions.
8. **Ambassadors' Roundtable:** The Ministry hosted the Ambassadors' Roundtable Meet in Delhi on August 27, 2025, inviting envoys from 28 nations along with senior officials, industry leaders and multilateral representatives to discuss collaboration ahead of India Maritime Week (IMW) 2025, scheduled for October 27–31 in Mumbai. The meet facilitated substantive discussions on emerging opportunities for investment, collaborative projects in shipbuilding and port-led development, promotion of blue economy pathways, digitalization in maritime logistics and adoption of environment friendly shipping practices.
9. **National Maritime Heritage Complex:** MoU signed with the Maritime Museum of Amsterdam, Netherlands on August 6, 2025.
