

Warm Welcome & Acknowledgements

Distinguished guests, dear colleagues, partners in the maritime sector, It is my privilege to greet you today as we mark World Maritime Day – a moment of pride and collective responsibility for all of us dedicated to India's maritime growth and global standards. My gratitude to SCI for hosting this knowledge dissemination session, and to everyone who presented and participated so enthusiastically today.

Setting the Context – Maritime India Vision 2030

The Maritime India Vision 2030 is India's blueprint for becoming a global maritime leader. It sets out over 150 initiatives across ten key themes: from world-class port infrastructure and green shipping to advanced logistics, increased inland waterways use, innovation, and above all, enhanced seafarer training and welfare. MIV 2030 calls for integrated administration – recognizing that today's maritime challenges and opportunities span ports, shipbuilding and recycling, offshore operations, inland navigation, and multimodal connectivity. All our reforms are united around a single goal: to ensure that India is not just a participant, but a pacesetter in the global blue economy.

Reflection on the Three Knowledge Sessions

Today's presentations have mapped the breadth and depth of this new era:

- The first, on the Merchant Shipping Act 2025, highlighted our greatly expanded statutory purview: offshore, ports, shipyards, ship recycling centers, inland navigation, and the critical need to enable seamless multimodal transport.
- The second, on the DGS to DGMA transition, made it clear that we are moving beyond narrow regulatory enforcement; the new DGMA will facilitate, connect, and champion innovation across the entire marine sector.
- The third, focusing on the Hong Kong International Convention, showcased how India now sets the benchmark for green ship recycling – leading the world in compliance, skill-building, and sustainable practices at clusters like Alang.

These sessions together paint a picture of a truly holistic, modern maritime administration – broad in scope, future-facing in action, and committed to both compliance and capacity-building.

Our Way Forward: Embracing Responsibility, Ready for Transition

With this expanded responsibility, the path ahead is both ambitious and clear. The transition from DGS to DGMA is far more than a statutory shift: it is a transformation in how we serve the sector and the nation.

- We become not only regulators, but strategic enablers – fostering collaboration, partnering for sustainability, and facilitating India's rise as a preferred global maritime hub.
- We will harness new technologies, champion inclusive industry practices, and ensure strict environmental compliance.
- Seafarer welfare, safety, and rights will remain at the heart of all we do, guided by full conformity with international conventions like the MLC and HKC.

India now stands as a confident leader at the crossroads of tradition and innovation. Our vision is to be known worldwide not only for our maritime tonnage and capacity, but also for our skilled, empowered seafarers – women and men – who exemplify our values on every ocean.

Closing

Let us mark this World Maritime Day by reaffirming our dedication: to a safer, greener, and more innovative Indian maritime sector; to the highest welfare standards for our seafarers; and to asserting India's place as a driver of maritime excellence in the decades ahead.

Thank you.

Cue Card 1: Warm Welcome & Acknowledgements

- Greet distinguished guests, maritime colleagues, partners.
 - Privileged to speak on World Maritime Day; a moment for pride and responsibility.
 - Thank SCI for hosting and thank all presenters/participants.
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Cue Card 2: Setting the Context – Maritime India Vision 2030

- MIV 2030 is India's blueprint for global maritime leadership.
 - 150+ initiatives covering port infrastructure, green shipping, logistics, inland waterways, innovation, and seafarer training/welfare.
 - Emphasizes integrated administration – solutions for ports, shipbuilding/recycling, offshore, inland navigation, multimodal connectivity.
 - Unified reform goal: making India a global blue economy pacesetter.
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Cue Card 3: Reflection on the Three Knowledge Sessions

- Session 1 (MS Act 2025):
 - Statutory purview expanded – offshore, ports, shipyards, recycling centers, inland navigation, multimodal transport.
 - Session 2 (DGS to DGMA transition):
 - Moving beyond enforcement; DGMA will facilitate/connect/innovate for the entire marine sector.
 - Session 3 (Hong Kong Convention):
 - India now benchmarks global green ship recycling – compliance, skill-building, sustainable practices (Alang).
 - Together: modern administration, broad scope, future-facing, compliance + capacity-building.
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Cue Card 4: Our Way Forward – Embracing Responsibility, Readiness

- Expanded responsibility – ambitious and clear path forward.
- DGS to DGMA: not just regulatory shift – enabled transformation for nation/sector.

- New role: regulators + strategic enablers – more collaboration, sustainability, global maritime hub.
 - Harnessing technologies, inclusive practices, strict environmental compliance.
 - Seafarer welfare/safety/rights remain core – aligned with MLC, HKC, global standards.
 - India as confident leader crossing tradition & innovation; vision: skilled, empowered seafarers recognized worldwide.
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Cue Card 5: Closing

- Reaffirm dedication: safer, greener, more innovative sector.
- Highest welfare standards for seafarers.
- India to drive maritime excellence in coming decades.
- Thank you.