DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways · Government of India

INMARCO 2026

EVENT REPORT

National Maritime Games 2027 · Sagar Mein Samman · Sagar Mein Yog

DGMA sessions on maritime sport, women in maritime and seafarer wellbeing



ORGANISED BY

Directorate General of Maritime Administration

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
Government of India

VENUE

Lotus, The Westin

INMARCO 2026

EVENT DATE

27th October 2026

INMARCO 2026 · Sagar Mein Samman · SAGAR MEIN YOG · Ganpat University CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE

Report on the National Maritime Games 2027 at INMARCO 2026

Event	INMARCO 2026 — National Maritime Games 2027 announcements
Date	27 October 2026
Submitted to	The Deputy Director General (DDG)
Subject	Announcements and discussions concerning the National Maritime Games 2027

Introduction

This report presents the key announcements and discussions concerning the National Maritime Games 2027 at INMARCO 2026 held on 27 October 2026. The addresses covered the forthcoming Games, the Golf Event and Cyclothon, and the accommodation and transportation arrangements for participants.

1. Address by Shri Deependra Singh Bisen, Deputy Director General of Maritime Administration

Shri Deependra Singh Bisen presented the National Maritime Games 2027 as an initiative to unite the maritime fraternity through sport, camaraderie and collective endeavour. On behalf of the Directorate General of Maritime Administration, he welcomed the delegates and stakeholders and appealed to the maritime industry to participate wholeheartedly in the Games.

He stated that the Games are an initiative of the Directorate General of Maritime Administration, with Ganpat University, Gujarat, as the institutional partner. The next edition is scheduled from 5 to 12 January 2027 at Ganpat University, Gujarat. The Games seek to provide a common national platform for maritime professionals to compete, connect, celebrate and build a stronger collective identity.

Referring to the inaugural edition in 2025, he highlighted that it featured 14 sporting disciplines over 12 days, bringing together more than 60 organisations and approximately 1,750 participants across multiple venues. This experience provided a valuable foundation for the forthcoming edition.

For 2027, participation is envisaged from more than 265 organisations across six maritime verticals, with over 5,000 people expected on campus, including athletes, officials and support personnel. More than 1,000 family and community participants are also expected. The programme encompasses 28 sporting and participation disciplines. The theme is “Games of the Sea, Spirit of Courage” — “Sagar ka Khel, Sahas ka Mel”.

He informed the gathering that registration was open. Outreach through the National Maritime Games’ digital platforms and social media channels had been intensified, with regular communications and promotional posts being issued on an almost alternate-day basis. Further details were available on the official website, www.nationalmaritimegames.org.

He acknowledged the contribution of Ganpat University colleagues, particularly Shri Jitendra Singh Rawat, a member of the Games’ core team, towards advancing the initiative. He also acknowledged Capt. Girish Phadnis of MASSA, a core team member, for his maritime industry experience and engagement.

In his concluding appeal, he invited the maritime industry to participate with their teams and families and make the Games a celebration of sporting excellence, fitness, inclusion and maritime solidarity.



PHOTO 1 | *Shri Deependra Singh Bisen, Deputy Director General of Maritime Administration addressing the gathering.*

2. Golf Event address by Capt Shri Girish Phadnis

Capt. Shri Girish Phadnis addressed the gathering regarding the upcoming Golf Event and provided information on participation. The event is scheduled for 6 January 2027 at Kalhaar Greens and is in the "Open for All" category.



PHOTO 2 | *Capt. Shri Girish Phadnis, COO MASSA, addressing the gathering.*

3. Cyclothon announcement by Mrs Kiran Phadnis

Ms. Kiran Phadnis announced a 20 km Cyclothon to be held on 10 January 2027 as part of the National Maritime Games 2027.

4. Facilities outlined by Shri Jitendra Singh Rawat

Shri Jitendra Singh Rawat outlined the facilities to be extended by Ganpat University to participants of the National Maritime Games 2027. The arrangements include special transportation and pick-up services,

free accommodation for all participants for a period of eight days, and separate hostel accommodation arrangements for participants.



PHOTO 3 | *Shri Jitendra Singh Rawat, Executive Dean, CDIE, Ganpat University addressing the gathering.*

5. Conclusion

The announcements at INMARCO 2026 outlined the schedule and envisaged participation for the National Maritime Games 2027, together with details of the Golf Event, Cyclothon and participant facilities. The addresses called for participation by the maritime fraternity and highlighted Ganpat University's role in supporting the conduct of the Games.

Report on the Sagar Mein Samman Session at INMARCO 2026

Event	INMARCO 2026 — Sagar Mein Samman Session (Session L-4)
Date	27 October 2026
Time	15:50–17:00 hrs
Venue	Lotus, The Westin
Organised by	Directorate General of Maritime Administration (DGMA)
Funding partner	Maritime Union of India (MUI)

Introduction

The Directorate General of Maritime Administration (DGMA) convened a dedicated session on **Sagar Mein Samman** at INMARCO 2026 on 27 October 2026. The session brought together the Joint Chairpersons, members of the five Phase-II thematic committees, the funding partner, representatives of maritime administrations, shipping companies, training institutions and industry associations, women maritime professionals and female cadets. The proceedings, recorded below in the order of the minute-to-minute programme, reviewed the progress of the initiative and the implementation of the Sagar Mein Samman Five-Year Action Framework (2025–2030).

1. Screening of the Sagar Mein Samman Video

The session commenced with the screening of the Sagar Mein Samman video for participants.

2. Address by Shri D. S. Bisen, Deputy Director General, DGMA

Shri D. S. Bisen, Deputy Director General, Directorate General of Maritime Administration (DGMA), addressed the Sagar Mein Samman session at INMARCO 2026. Welcoming the Joint Chairpersons, Dr. Kusum Kanwar and Mrs. Ambika Singh, members of the thematic committees, representatives of maritime administrations, shipping companies, training institutions and industry associations, women maritime professionals and female cadets, he emphasised that professional excellence knows no gender, and that the aspirations of female cadets, already an indispensable part of Indian shipping, should not be constrained by stereotypes or prejudice.

He recalled that Sagar Mein Samman was conceptualised at the Global Maritime India Summit in 2023 and advanced through the constitution of the Task Force for Women in Maritime in November 2024. He appreciated the foundational work of Phase I under the chairpersonship of Ms. H. K. Joshi, and the continued stewardship of the Joint Chairpersons and thematic committee members, stressing that meaningful gender inclusion requires coordinated governance, training, outreach, monitoring and institutional accountability.

Shri Bisen highlighted the **Sagar Mein Samman Five-Year Action Framework, 2025–2030**, notified through **DGS Circular No. 05 of 2026**, and its provisions on a **Zero Tolerance Policy, a Model Code of Conduct for Seafarers and gender-sensitisation modules**. Linking these with **Maritime India Vision 2030** and

Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047, he underlined the need for a technically proficient, globally competitive, equitable and diverse maritime workforce committed to human dignity.



PHOTO 4 | *Shri D. S. Bisen, Deputy Director General, DGMA, addressing the Sagar Mein Samman session at INMARCO 2026.*

Citing the Periodic Labour Force Survey, he noted that female labour force participation had risen from **23.3 per cent in 2017–18 to 41.7 per cent in 2023–24**, and women's participation in Indian seafaring from about **1,600 in 2021 to over 7,000 in 2025**. He acknowledged the **Maritime Training Trust's** scholarship of **₹1 lakh per eligible woman trainee per year**, which has benefited more than **3,800 women since 2014–15**, and thanked the **Maritime Union of India**, with the support of **Capt. Savio Ramos**, for its backing as funding partner.

Placing the initiative in an international context, he referred to the **IMO's International Day for Women in Maritime (18 May)**, the **IMO–WISTA Women in Maritime Survey 2024**, and the work of **Professor Momoko Kitada of the World Maritime University**, recipient of the **2026 IMO Gender Equality Award**, including the **Handbook on Gender Mainstreaming in the Maritime Sector**. He noted that the **2024 amendments to the STCW Code** introduced mandatory training on preventing and responding to violence and harassment, including sexual harassment, bullying and sexual assault, and stressed that maritime safety encompasses the protection of human dignity.

He called on maritime administrations and shipping companies to collect **sex-disaggregated data**, review recruitment and promotion practices, ensure appropriate accommodation, sanitation and personal-safety arrangements, establish confidential reporting mechanisms, and support mentorship and leadership development. Drawing on **Albert Bandura's work on social learning**, he urged senior officers to model respectful conduct, and encouraged female cadets to know their rights, seek mentors, build professional networks and raise concerns through appropriate channels.

Calling for a decisive shift from intention to implementation, he invited shipowners, maritime unions, training institutions, welfare organisations and professionals to share suggestions, experiences and international practices, and appealed to male colleagues to help build a profession in which merit has no gender and dignity has no exception. He called for a maritime environment in which every woman could **"enter with confidence, serve with dignity, progress with fairness and lead with distinction"**, closing with the message: **"Respect at sea. Equality in opportunity. Excellence in every role."**

3. Address by Capt. Savio Ramos, General Secretary, MUI

Following the DGMA address, Capt. Savio Ramos, General Secretary, Maritime Union of India (MUI), the funding partner of Sagar Mein Samman, addressed the session. He emphasised the importance of regular feedback from shipping companies and seafarers to assess the effectiveness of outreach programmes and identify areas requiring improvement. Drawing upon his shipboard experience, he highlighted that feedback helps identify gaps and translate ongoing efforts into meaningful progress. He stated that MUI would take the inputs received forward with its members to understand their requirements and identify areas for further improvement under Sagar Mein Samman.



PHOTO 5 | *Capt. Savio Ramos, General Secretary, MUI, addressing the session.*



PHOTO 6 | *Capt. Savio Ramos addressing the session, with Joint Chairpersons Dr. Kusum Kanwar and Mrs. Ambika Singh seated.*

4. Introduction of the Joint Chairpersons

The Joint Chairpersons of Sagar Mein Samman, Dr. Kusum Kanwar and Mrs. Ambika Singh, were then introduced to the gathering.



PHOTO 7 | *Dr. Kusum Kanwar and Mrs. Ambika Singh, Joint Chairpersons of Sagar Mein Samman.*

5. Presentation by the Joint Chairpersons

Dr. Kusum Kanwar and Mrs. Ambika Singh, Joint Chairpersons of Sagar Mein Samman, jointly presented the initiative's objectives, progress and Five-Year Action Framework (2025–2030). They highlighted the growing participation of women in Indian seafaring and outlined the initiative's five core pillars: zero tolerance to harassment, equality in policy and practice, empowerment through education, inclusive institutions and global collaboration.



PHOTO 8 | *Dr. Kusum Kanwar and Mrs. Ambika Singh, Joint Chairpersons, presenting the initiative.*



PHOTO 9 | *Dr. Kusum Kanwar, Joint Chairperson, addressing the session.*

The presentation covered Phase-II implementation through five thematic committees, with emphasis on defined responsibilities, measurable outcomes and periodic review. Key priorities included onboard safety and welfare, mental and physical wellbeing, gender sensitisation, mentorship and equitable career advancement. The Joint Chairpersons also outlined opportunities for institutes and universities to contribute through training, research, capacity-building and outreach. They called for sustained stakeholder collaboration to translate policy commitments into practical outcomes, acknowledging the Maritime Union of India's funding support.



PHOTO 10 | *Mrs. Ambika Singh, Joint Chairperson, speaking during the presentation, with Dr. Kusum Kanwar.*



PHOTO 11 | *Dr. Kusum Kanwar addressing participants, with Mrs. Ambika Singh seated.*

6. Addresses by the Thematic Committee Representatives

Following the presentation, representatives of the five Phase-II thematic committees addressed the session in turn, each for three minutes, on the work and priorities of their respective committees.



Photo 12 | *Dr. Delna Shroff, Training Modules Committee, addressing the session, with Ms. Archana Sangal and Ms. Dhanuja Senthilvel.*



Photo 13 | *Ms. Rajshree Verma, Capacity Building & Sensitisation Committee, addressing the session.*



Photo 14 | *Ms. Priti Singh and Ms. Vrushali Rampure, Monitoring, Evaluation & Review Committee, addressing the session.*



Photo 15 | *Mrs. Sandhya Pillai and Mrs. Aishwarya Pilankar Representative of the Institutional Framework and Governance Committee addressing the session.*



Photo 16 | *Mrs. Bharti Bandarkar, Outreach Committee, addressing the session.*

7. Interactive Discussion and Questions

The floor was then opened for an interactive discussion, during which participants shared their views, experiences and suggestions and raised questions on the initiative with the Joint Chairpersons and committee representatives.



PHOTO 17 | *Participants during the interactive discussion.*



PHOTO 18 | *Delegates engaging in the interactive discussion.*

8. Group Photograph

All team members were called together for a group photograph.



PHOTO 19 | *Members of the Sagar Mein Samman thematic committees at INMARCO 2026.*



PHOTO 20 | *Shri D. S. Bisen, DDG, and Joint Chairpersons Dr. Kusum Kanwar and Mrs. Ambika Singh with members of the Outreach Committee.*

9. Concluding Remarks and Vote of Thanks

The session concluded with closing remarks and a vote of thanks.

Conclusion

The session reaffirmed the commitment of DGMA, the Joint Chairpersons, the thematic committees and the funding partner to move Sagar Mein Samman from intention to implementation under the Five-Year Action Framework (2025–2030). Participants were invited to continue sharing suggestions, practical experiences and feedback to strengthen women's recruitment, training, retention, safety and advancement in the maritime sector.

REPORT ON SAGAR MEIN YOG (SMY) SESSION AT INMARCO 2026

Date: 27 October 2026 | Occasion: INMARCO 2026

1. Introduction and Opening

The Sagar Mein Yog (SMY) session was conducted during INMARCO 2026 on 27 October 2026 to highlight the importance of holistic health and well-being in the maritime sector. Initiated by the Directorate General of Maritime Administration (DGMA) in November 2024, SMY seeks to promote physical fitness, mental resilience, emotional balance and preventive self-care among seafarers through accessible wellness education and yoga-based practices.

The initiative is supported by the National Union of Seafarers of India (NUSI), its funding partner, and Trijog – Know Your Mind, its knowledge partner. The session highlighted the need for sustained wellness support for maritime professionals working in demanding conditions, often away from their families and conventional support systems.



PHOTO 21 | *Representatives of the National Union of Seafarers of India (NUSI), funding partner, at the session.*

2. Screening of the Sagar Mein Yog Video

An introductory video showcasing the Sagar Mein Yog initiative was screened at the commencement of the programme. The screening provided an overview of the initiative and set the context for the subsequent addresses and presentation on seafarer wellness.

3. Address by Shri Deependra Singh Bisen, Deputy Director General

Shri Deependra Singh Bisen, Deputy Director General, DGMA, addressed the gathering and observed that advances in ships, navigation and digital technologies must be accompanied by equal attention to the seafarers who sustain maritime operations. He drew attention to prolonged separation from family, social

isolation, disrupted rest, demanding watchkeeping schedules and psychological stress associated with life at sea. He noted that such difficulties may not always be outwardly visible and stressed the need for a broader understanding of seafarer welfare beyond occupational safety alone.

He referred to the initiation of Sagar Mein Yog in November 2024 and explained that yoga, understood as a discipline of self-awareness, balance and healthy living, extends beyond physical postures. Through asanas, pranayama, kriyas and structured wellness education, SMY seeks to encourage preventive self-care as a sustained practice. He highlighted the initiative's ten interconnected dimensions of wellness, encompassing physical, emotional, social, financial and other aspects of a seafarer's professional and personal life.

Shri Bisen highlighted the dedicated SMY Learning Management System (LMS) as a means of providing structured, self-paced wellness education to seafarers irrespective of their geographical location. He noted that more than 52,000 seafarers had successfully completed the programme and referred to steps taken through the maritime training framework in 2026 to familiarise seafarers with wellness principles from the formative stages of their careers.



PHOTO 22 | *Shri Deependra Singh Bisen, Deputy Director General, DGMA, addressing the session.*

Referring to the growing international focus on mental health at sea, he emphasised that yoga and wellness education must complement adequate rest, safe working conditions, supportive onboard environments and access to appropriate professional assistance. He acknowledged the financial support extended by the National Union of Seafarers of India (NUSI), the contribution of Trijog as Knowledge Partner and the efforts of other stakeholders. He further called for sustained implementation and continuous improvement of the initiative, consistent with Maritime India Vision 2030 and Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047.

4. Presentation by Ms. Sheetal Lakhani, Trijog

Ms. Sheetal Lakhani, Senior Psychologist and Head of Department at Trijog – Know Your Mind, delivered a presentation titled "Anchoring the Wellbeing of Our Seafarers". She outlined the development of SMY through the partnership of DGMA, NUSI and Trijog, highlighting the multidisciplinary contributions involved in developing its curriculum and digital learning resources. She also traced important milestones in the initiative, including the official launch of the SMY LMS in November 2025.

She explained that the curriculum comprises 43 learning modules organised under ten wellness pillars: Emotional, Economic (Financial), Physical, Occupational, Social, Environmental, Climatic, Intellectual,

Cultural and Spiritual Wellness. These pillars were presented as interconnected aspects of holistic well-being, addressing concerns such as stress management, physical health, relationships, financial awareness, occupational demands, adaptability and personal balance in the context of seafaring.



PHOTO 23 | *Ms. Sheetal Lakhani, Senior Psychologist, Trijog – Know Your Mind, presenting "Anchoring the Wellbeing of Our Seafarers".*

The presentation provided an overview of the LMS, including registration through an INDoS number and email address, access to expert-led videos and structured learning resources, and the flexibility to undertake courses at an individual pace. Ms. Lakhani also explained the progress tracker and automatic saving of learning progress; optional module quizzes; mandatory pillar assessments requiring a minimum score of 75 per cent; and digital certification on completion of individual pillars and all ten pillars. Support ticketing, course management, administrative oversight and reporting features were also highlighted.

As shared during the presentation, the LMS had recorded 86,519 registered users, 33,650 courses in progress and 52,869 course certifications. These figures were presented as indicators of the initiative's expanding reach and continued learner engagement, demonstrating the potential of digital learning to make wellness education accessible to seafarers across different locations and work schedules.



PHOTO 24 | *Dignitaries with the Trijog – Know Your Mind team.*

5. Address by the Representative of Shri Ambika Yog Kutir

The representative of Shri Ambika Yog Kutir appreciated the Sagar Mein Yog initiative and its LMS, while emphasising the importance of supplementing digital learning with practical, in-person yoga sessions. The address highlighted that regular guided practice can help translate online knowledge into daily habits and encouraged participants to make yoga a consistent part of their routine.

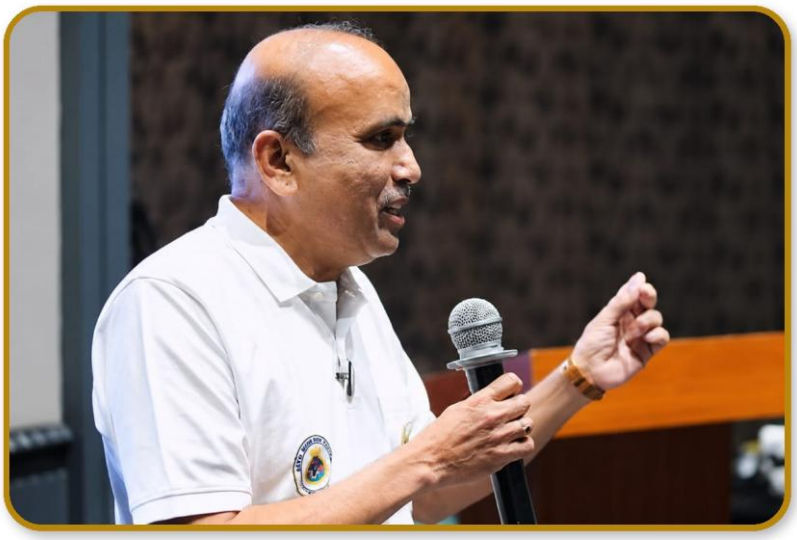

PHOTO 25 | *The representative of Shri Ambika Yog Kutir, Shri Prakash Pashuram addressing the session.*

The representative also suggested organising yoga sessions for students to foster awareness, physical health and mental well-being. The observations offered a constructive perspective on combining the reach of digital education with the practical benefits of supervised yoga instruction.

6. Vote of Thanks

The programme concluded with a Vote of Thanks, acknowledging the guidance and participation of the dignitaries and speakers, the representatives of NUSI, Trijog and Shri Ambika Yog Kutir, the organisers, and all those who contributed to the conduct of the session.

7. Overall Summary

The INMARCO 2026 session presented the progress of Sagar Mein Yog as a holistic wellness initiative for seafarers, highlighted the scope and accessibility of its LMS, and reinforced the importance of integrating digital wellness education with regular practical yoga. The proceedings underlined the value of sustained, collaborative efforts to promote healthier habits, resilience and well-being across the maritime community.

Group Photographs



PHOTO 26 | *Participants of the Sagar Mein Yog session at INMARCO 2026.*

SAGAR MEIN YOG

Glimpses of the Event

INMARCO 2026 · 27 October 2026



Photo 27 | *Participants at INMARCO 2026 on 27 October 2026 (National Maritime Games 2027).*



Photo 28 | *Glimpse of the Sagar Mein Samman session.*



Photo 29 | *Glimpse of the Sagar Mein Samman session.*



PHOTO 30 | *Dignitaries at the Sagar Mein Yog session.*



PHOTO 31 | *A view from the Sagar Mein Yog session.*



PHOTO 32 | *Dignitaries at the Sagar Mein Yog session.*