



PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
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Gujarat at the Forefront of India's Maritime Success Story (State Series)

Steering the Wheels of Maritime Prosperity through Port Development

(Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways)

September 29, 2022

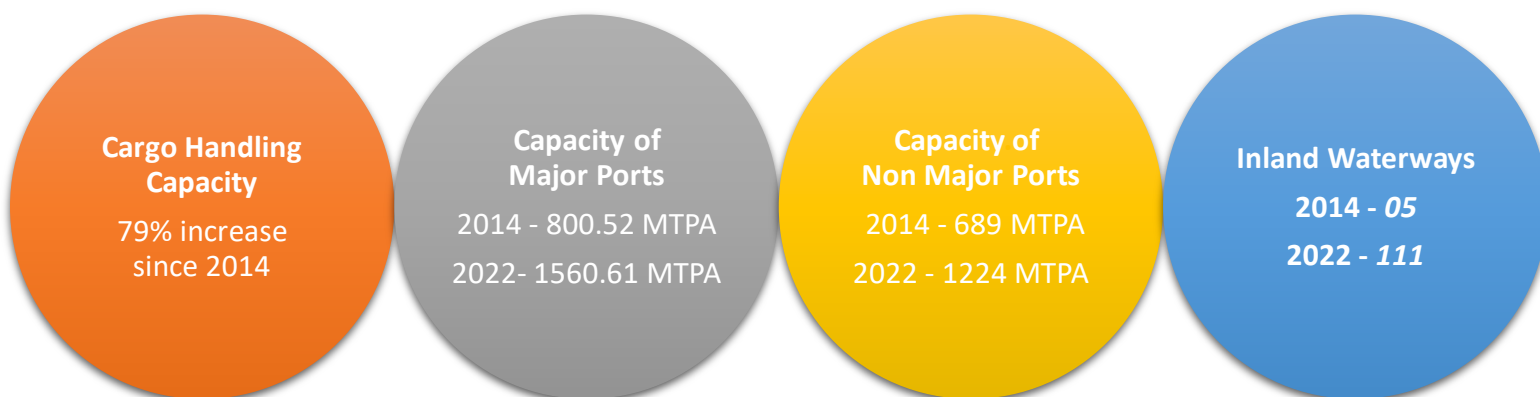
"Ours is a government that is investing in waterways in a way that was never seen before. We aim to operationalise 23 waterways by 2030. Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways has created a list of 400 investable projects. These projects have an investment potential of \$31 billion or Rs 2.25 lakh crores, & the Maritime India Vision 2030 outlines the priorities of the Government."

[-Prime Minister Narendra Modi](#)

To strengthen the Blue Economy's stake in Aatmanirbhar Bharat, there is a need to further bolster the country's maritime sector. India has a coastline of 8118 kilometres, covering nine maritime States and four Union Territories (UTs)¹, hence the maritime sector has always been a significant facet of India's geography, history, economy and society. Transportation by waterways is many times cheaper than road and railways and also causes less damage to the environment. Dedicated efforts to develop these aspects with a holistic approach have gained momentum in recent years.

Port-led development can help in developing a comprehensive ecosystem of transport and tourism. The Government of India has taken several initiatives in the maritime sector including infrastructure up-gradation, rationalisation of port fees, removing ousting charges, granting priority berthing to cruise ships, providing e-visa facilities etc.²

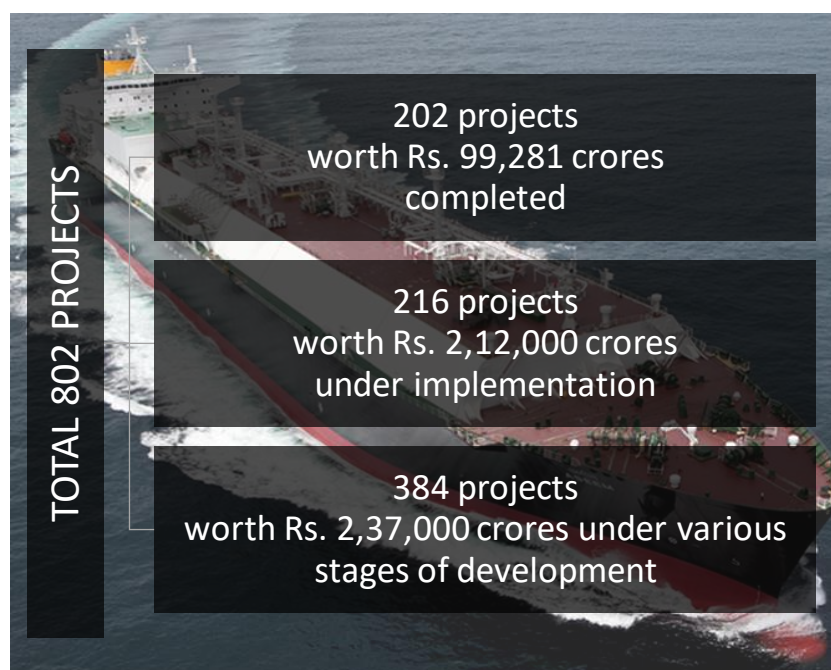
Steering the Wheels of Maritime Prosperity through Port Development



¹ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1802384>

² <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1825354>

- **Sagarmala project** is the flagship programme of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways. In the last seven years, the central government has taken several innovative initiatives under the Sagarmala project. It is aimed at accelerating economic development in the country by harnessing the potential of India's 7500 km-long coastline and 14,500 km of potentially navigable waterways. Projects under Sagarmala are being implemented by relevant major ports, central ministries, state maritime boards, state governments and other agencies.³



- As a result of measures such as the ability to do business, and the ability to develop the strategic importance of Indian ports in the South Asian region, the year 2021-22 has resulted in a record goods export of 400 billion US dollars.⁴
- Over 574 projects at a cost of 82 billion US Dollars or Rs 6 lakh crores have been identified for implementation during 2015 to 2035.⁵
- India aims to increase cruise passenger traffic from 0.4 million at present to Four million. Economic potential of cruise tourism is expected to go up from USD 110 million to USD 5.5 billion in the years to come.⁶
- The Government is in the process of installing solar and wind-based power systems at all the major ports across the country and aims to increase usage of renewable energy to more than 60% of total energy by 2030 in three phases across Indian ports.⁷

³ <https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=Union-Minister-Sarbananda-Sonowal-to-chair-meeting-of-National-Sagarmala-Apex-Committee-on-Friday&id=440382>

⁴ <https://cmogujarat.gov.in/en/latest-news/gujarat-has-full-potential-to-become-a-green-ship-recycling-hub-chief-minister/>

⁵ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1701886>

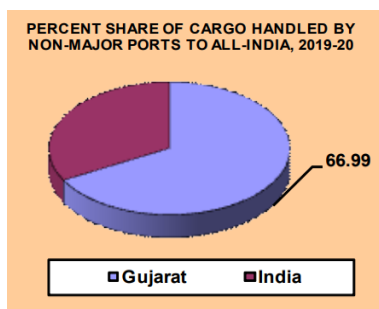
⁶ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1825354>

⁷ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1701886>

- Central Government aims to operationalise 23 waterways by 2030.⁸

Gujarat Emerging as a Port State of India

Gujarat has a coastal length of 1214 kms, covering 16 coastal districts having a huge diversity of marine-based ecosystems and development opportunities⁹. The ports of Gujarat have emerged as major maritime centres of the country and the State has nine functional shipbuilding yards.¹⁰



Factopedia:

- ♦ Gujarat can boast of the first ever big private port project in the country
- ♦ Gujarat's 40 Minor Ports, many in the private sector, handle around 80% of cargo handled by all private ports in India
- ♦ The only Chemical port and two LNG Terminals have been developed in the PPP format.

Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB) was set up in 1982 under the Gujarat Maritime Board Act-1981, in order to develop and regulate the State's port sector. Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB) manages 48 minor ports.¹¹



The state has become a gateway of prosperity due to the efforts of the government in ensuring the development of all types of infrastructure in the coastal area.¹² Initiatives by the Union Government are as follows:

- In Gujarat, **three Coastal Economic Zones** have been planned under Sagarmala project i.e. Kachchh, Saurashtra and Suryapur.¹³ To view Sagarmala projects in Gujarat, [click here](#).

⁸ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1701886>

⁹ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1802384>

¹⁰ https://financedepartment.gujarat.gov.in/Documents/Bud-Eng_1096_2022-3-3_683.pdf

¹¹ https://financedepartment.gujarat.gov.in/Documents/Bud-Eng_1096_2022-3-3_683.pdf

¹² <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1671210>

¹³ https://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/Committee_site/Committee_File/ReportFile/20/166/319_2022_3_12.pdf

- The Maritime India Vision (MIV) 2030 envisages the development of **mega port clusters** having a capacity of more than 300 MTPA in high potential areas of **Gujarat**, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal-Odisha clusters.¹⁴
- In Gujarat, **Ro-Pax ferry service between Ghogha and Hazaria** was inaugurated by PM Modi on November 08, 2020. It marks a big step towards the Prime Minister's vision of harnessing waterways and integrating them with the economic development of the country.¹⁵ The success of the ferry service has opened the gates for many more routes of water transportation in Gujarat and all over India.¹⁶
- In view of immense potential and distinct advantages of ferry service, **additional projects are planned at Pipavav and Muldwarka in Gujarat.**¹⁷



¹⁴ https://raiyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/Committee_site/Committee_File/ReportFile/20/166/319_2022_3_12.pdf

¹⁵ [Ro-Pax ferry service between Hazira & Ghogha in Gujarat will improve 'Ease of Living', boost economic prosperity: PM Modi \(newsonair.gov.in\)](https://newsonair.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1708742)

¹⁶ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1708742>

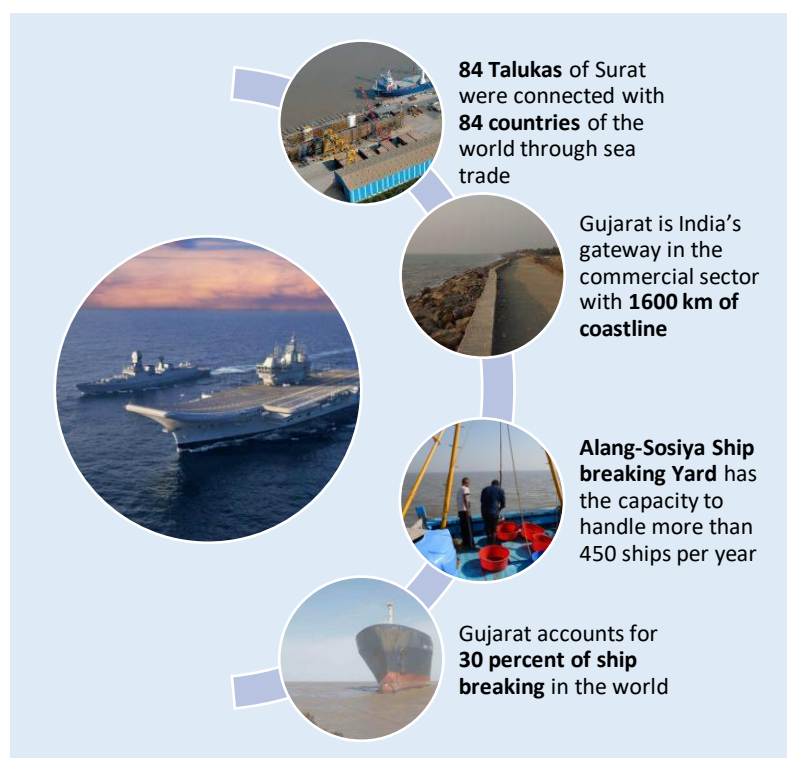
¹⁷ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1844895>

- In order to showcase India's rich and diverse maritime heritage, it is proposed to develop **National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) at Lothal, Gujarat**. NMHC will be first of its kind in the country comprising a maritime museum, a lighthouse museum, a maritime theme park, amusement parks/centers, etc., which will leverage modern technology to showcase the maritime history and will be a national/international tourist destination. The NMHC project has been taken up under the unique and innovative projects category of the Sagarmala programme.

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- In Gujarat, two projects related to development of new ports including **Bulk terminal / Greenfield Port at Chhara and CNG Terminal at Bhavnagar Port** are part of the Sagarmala programme and are being implemented by the Gujarat Maritime Board.¹⁹
- Union Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal laid the foundation stone for various capacity augmentation projects at Deendayal Port (DPT) at Kandla in October 2021.²⁰ These included:



- **Two Dome-shaped Godowns** to be constructed, which will increase the covered storage capacity by 1.45 lakh metric tonnes at a cost of Rs.36 crores
- **Oil Jetty No.8 at Old Kandla** at a cost of Rs.99 crores, which will increase the optimal capacity of the Port by 3.50 MMTPA and reduce the waiting period turnaround time of vessels
- **Parking Plaza for Trucks/Vehicles** with ancillary facilities like canteen, garage, rest shelter, etc. being developed for pre-gate verification of documents to ease congestion of vehicles at the gates

¹⁸ https://rajyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/Committee_site/Committee_File/ReportFile/20/166/319_2022_3_12.pdf

¹⁹ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1809521>

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²⁰ <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1764971>

- **Modernization of the existing Pipeline Network**, at a cost of Rs.126.50 crores had also been taken up for operational efficiency and improving the handling capacity of edible oil and chemicals at the Port. The project will increase the optimal capacity from 8 MMTPA to 23.8 MMTPA.
- Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB) is also working on developing a **Marine Shipbuilding Park in Bhavnagar along with a Maritime Services Cluster** in Ahmedabad or Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT) City.²¹
- Minister of State for Ports, Shipping & Waterways (I/C) Mansukh Mandaviya flagged off the **Cruise service from Hazira Port of Surat to Diu** on March 31, 2021.²²
- Steps are also being taken by the Central Government to **introduce urban water transport systems in key states and cities** such as Kochi, Mumbai, **Gujarat** and Goa.²³

“Gujarat has increased its sea trade potential in past two decades: PM”

Adequate expansion of maritime capabilities has made Gujarat one of the most developed maritime states in India. With the state being India's gateway in the commercial sector with 1600 kms of coastline, Gujarat today has a chemical port, a container port, and a recycling port, along with the first CNG port also envisioned to be built in the near future.²⁴ Gujarat is well-connected with all major port-based trade routes and has road, rail and air connectivity to major trade centres across the globe, thus offering vast international trade opportunities, making it one of the preferred maritime destinations of the world.

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²¹ https://shipmin.gov.in/sites/default/files/AnnualReport2021_0.pdf

²² <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1708742>

²³ <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1701886>

²⁴ <https://cmogujarat.gov.in/en/latest-news/gujarat-has-full-potential-to-become-a-green-ship-recycling-hub-chief-minister/>

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