

Turn to

- Indian Shipping Movements —I & II
- PM launches port, inland waterways projects to boost riverine logistics in West Bengal —8
- Int'l Shipping Scene —11
- FER + CER —18
- Deendayal Port Authority achieves fastest-ever 125 million metric tonnes in FY 2025-26 —26

News pages 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 26



The first & the only National Daily on
EXPORT—IMPORT—SHIPPING

Link Logistics Management Pvt. Ltd.
"Delivering Trust Everywhere"

- See page 26

Tel: (022) 6757 1400, E-mail: newsmumbai@exim-india.com, mktg@exim-india.com • Website: www.eximin.net ₹11.00

Vol. XXXVI No. 12

MUMBAI & WESTERN INDIA : Tuesday, January 20, 2026

South Asia's premier cargo and logistics show is back!

CTL-BHP 2026 exhibition and conference set to see wide-ranging participation on March 17 and 18 at Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai

Exim News Service

MUMBAI, Jan. 19

EXIM India
proudly presents

CTL-BHP 2026, the 16th edition of South Asia's definitive exhibition and conference on **Cargo, Transport and Logistics**, encompassing **Container Shipping** and with special focus on **Break-bulk, Heavylift and Project handling**, scheduled on **March 17 and 18, 2026 (Tuesday-Wednesday)** at **Jio World Convention Centre, Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai, India**.

**17th - 18th March 2026**

Pavilion I & II, Jio World Convention Centre, Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai, India

A mega cargo & logistics showcase

CTL-BHP has over the years emerged as a truly Mega Cargo and Logistics extravaganza, a sweeping demonstration of the wide-ranging logistics and cargo-handling expertise in the world's fastest-growing large economy. Attracting leading players from across the globe as exhibitors; top decision-makers and movers & shakers as speakers, panelists and delegates; and scores of visitors from India and abroad, it is the

Turn to page 6

Key developments in container shipping and Indian ports

★ *Focus on decarbonisation, connectivity, transhipment*By **Sunil Vaswani**, Executive Director,
Container Shipping Lines Association (India)

THE last few years have witnessed significant disruptions across the world. Global trade and transportation have therefore had to face some real challenges.



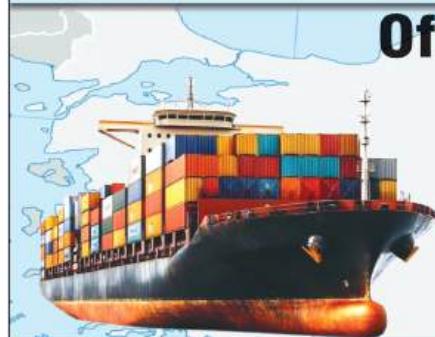
It all started with the pandemic during the end of 2019 / beginning of 2020. With the lockdown prevailing at ports globally, ships had to wait for several days or even weeks to secure a berth. Added to this was the increased demand for space and equipment which the shipping lines did their best to provide through acquisition of additional capacities at higher costs.

Things had barely settled when the Red Sea crisis struck during the end of 2023. This again completely disrupted the trade as the Red Sea / Suez Canal was virtually blocked. Hence, a round trip between India and Europe, which originally took about 58 / 62 days with 8 / 9 vessels via the Suez to maintain a weekly service, started taking approximately 84 / 85 days with 11 / 12 ships via the Cape of Good Hope. This further increased the costs for the lines although the trade eventually adjusted to these timelines. More

Turn to page 10

SEASTAR EXPRESS CONTAINER LINE

Superior and Reliable Service to: KAZAKHSTAN, UZBEKISTAN, AZERBAIJAN, ARMENIA, TURKMENISTAN, KYRGYZSTAN & TAJIKISTAN
Accepts : 20' / 40' GP / ODC / REEFERS etc.

Provides timely and credible information on cargo movement until delivery point.**Offering services to**

CIS
via
MERSIN

Faster transit times in place, Quick transport connections from Mersin, Regular Vessel services to Mersin with convenient transit times

CIS via the Trans-Caspian International route / Mersin.Ship your containers to Central Asian CIS & Siberia through the Turkey / Caspian Sea route traversing the **CENTRAL ASIAN MIDDLE CORRIDOR**.

Also accepting bookings via Qingdao, Bandar Abbas, Poti, Vladivostok & Novorossiysk.

Further details, please contact

SEAHORSE SHIP AGENCIES PVT. LTD.

Seahorse House, Adi Marzaban Street, Ballard Estate, Mumbai 400 001, India.

Board No.: +91 22 22691837 • Direct No.: +91 22 40737136 • Mobile: +91 9821580829 (Mr. Manoj Menon)

E-mail: sujatha@seahorsegroup.co.in

www.seahorsegroup.co.in

CTL-BHP 2026

From page 3

place to be for all associated with cargo and logistics.

Expanding in scale and scope every passing year, this year's edition will have **180+ exhibitors and 15,300+ attendees/visitors from India and overseas**, representing the entire spectrum of the industry including shipping, ports, logistics service providers, technology enablers, shipyards, transporters, analysts and consultants, shippers and consignees, and more.

Concurrent with the comprehensive exhibition will be a **Multi-Session Conference** spread over the two days, that will deliberate on a range of topical themes and issues impacting the industry today, and the outlook for the future. Sectoral leaders from India and abroad, as well as regulators and policymakers, will be making their presence felt.

As a value addition, the conference will also offer side sessions focused on knowledge-sharing and training pertaining

to specific subjects.

CTL-BHP 2026 is thus a must-attend this March, for experiencing the best of products and services on display, exploring opportunities to grow one's business on a global scale, listening to the pertinent insights of industry leaders and decision-makers, interacting and networking with stakeholders from around the world, and availing of the occasion to learn and expand one's horizons.

Landmark measure to provide level playing field for exporters using the postal channel

Exim News Service

NEW DELHI, Jan. 19
IN a significant boost to India's **e-commerce and MSME exports**, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has extended export-related benefits under the Duty Drawback, Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoD-TEP) and Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (RoSCTL) schemes to exports made through the postal mode in electronic form, with effect from 15th January 2026.

This landmark measure aims to provide a level playing field for exporters using the postal channel and to create a conducive and inclusive ecosystem for the growth of cross-border e-commerce. The initiative is expected to significantly enhance the competitiveness of MSME exporters, especially those located in smaller towns and remote areas, and give a major fillip to postal exports.

To operationalise these benefits, CBIC has approved amendments to the Postal Export (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2022, enabling exporters to claim Duty Drawback, RoDTEP and RoSCTL benefits for goods exported through the postal route. Accordingly, Notification No.07/2026-Customs (N.T.) amending the

Postal Export (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2022 and Circular No. 01/2026—Customs explaining the amendments and detailing the operational modalities have been issued.

Over recent years, the Government of India has undertaken a series of policy initiatives, digital reforms and regulatory measures to transform India's e-commerce export ecosystem. A dedicated chapter titled "Promoting Cross-Border Trade in the Digital Economy" has been introduced in the Foreign Trade Policy 2023, providing a comprehensive framework to promote cross-border e-commerce through courier, post, e-commerce export hubs, Dak Niryat Kendras and other

facilitative mechanisms.

India currently has 28 Foreign Post Offices (FPOs) notified under Section 7 of the Customs Act, 1962. CBIC has undertaken several measures to strengthen cross-border trade through the postal and courier modes. The Postal Export (Electronic Declaration and Processing) Regulations, 2022 enabled end-to-end electronic processing of export declarations for postal exports. Further, the Postal Import Regulations, 2025 were notified to facilitate electronic processing of postal imports. Automation of IGST refunds for postal exports was successfully implemented in September 2024.

To further promote e-commerce exports, CBIC, in collaboration with the

Department of Posts, launched an innovative 'Hub and Spoke' model in December 2022, leveraging India Post's vast nationwide network. Under this model, over 1,000 Dak Niryat Kendras (DNKs) have been designated across the country to facilitate booking, aggregation and processing of export parcels, particularly benefiting MSMEs and small exporters.

The extension of export incentives to postal shipments marks another important milestone in the government's ongoing efforts to simplify procedures, reduce costs, and promote inclusive growth of India's exports, strengthening the country's position in the rapidly evolving global e-commerce landscape.

Textile and apparel sector sees broad-based exports

Exim News Service

NEW DELHI, Jan. 19

INDIA'S Textile and Apparel (T&A) exports have demonstrated resilience and steady growth despite a subdued global trade environment, reflecting the sector's adaptability, diversified market presence and strength in value-added and labour-intensive segments. The sector recorded positive growth for the second consecutive month, with exports in December 2025 rising by 0.40% over December 2024 to USD 3.27 billion, following strong growth in November 2025.

During December 2025, export growth was broad-based across key segments, led by Handicrafts (7.2%), Ready-Made Garments (2.89%), and MMF yarn, fabrics and made-ups

(3.99%). These trends underline India's competitive advantage in value-added manufacturing, traditional crafts and employment-intensive production, even amid volatile global demand conditions.

On a calendar-year basis (January-December 2025), textile and apparel exports remained stable at USD 37.54 billion, with notable cumulative growth in Handicrafts (17.5%), Ready-Made Garments (3.5%) and Jute products (3.5%). Stability at this scale, despite geopolitical tensions and inflationary pressures in key markets, reflects the sector's structural strength and diversified export basket.

A key highlight of 2025 has been significant market diversification. During January-November 2025, India's textile sector recorded export Turn to page 7