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Vol. XXXVI No. 16 MUMBAI & WESTERN INDIA : Tuesday, January 27, 2026

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Exim News Service
MUMBAI, Jan. 26

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BUDGET EXPECTATION

'The logistics industry expects Budget 2026 to continue the focus on incentivising private participation in infrastructure creation, capacity building, digitisation, skill development and sustainability'



Mr Shashi Kiran Shetty, Founder & Chairman, Allcargo Group

"BUDGET 2026 arrives at a defining moment for India's logistics and maritime sectors, which can be the key enabler for economic growth. With global trade dynamics Turn to page 18

- Shipping Gazette : I & II ● Int'l Shipping Scene : 19 ● FER + Revised Customs Exchange Rates w.e.f. January 24, 2026 : 26
- News pages : 3, 6, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 & 18

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Maersk appoints Charles van der Steene as its new Managing Director for the Indian Subcontinent, Middle East & Africa


MAERSK

Exim News Service

DUBAI, Jan. 26



A.P. Moller - Maersk (Maersk), the global integrated logistics company, has appointed Mr Charles van der Steene as the Regional Managing Director for the Indian Subcontinent, Middle East & Africa (IMEA), effective January 1, 2026.

An accomplished professional with extensive industry expertise, Mr van der Steene has been with Maersk since 2011, bringing comprehensive global experience in commercial strategy, operational excellence and leadership. He previously worked in the IMEA region from 2016 to 2019, as Regional CEO for this territory for DAMCO (Maersk's Supply Chain and Logistics arm, which was integrated into Maersk in 2020). His subsequent roles have included heading Sales & Marketing in North America and, most recently, leading the North America Region.

"I'm honoured to be leading our exceptional team across the IMEA region, where we serve customers navigating some of the world's most complex and rapidly evolving trade corridors. This region's strategic importance continues to grow, connecting three continents and driving global commerce. I look forward to working alongside our colleagues to deliver consistency, resilience and innovation to the supply chains that depend on us every day," said Mr van der Steene.

Maharashtra CM holds discussions with Maersk CEO on maritime infrastructure, Vadhvan Port

Exim News Service

DAVOS, Jan. 26

THE Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Mr Devendra Fadnavis, held discussions here with Mr Vincent Clerc, CEO, Maersk, on advancing circular economy-driven maritime infrastructure, with a focused dialogue on the development of Vadhvan Port as a next-generation, green facility.

The interaction explored opportunities for global shipping partnerships, sustainable port operations and positioning Vadhvan Port as a world class gateway for India's maritime trade and logistics ecosystem, informed a communique.

The logistics industry expects Budget 2026

From page 3

evolving rapidly, India has a unique opportunity to position itself as a resilient economy supported by a robust, efficient and future-ready logistics ecosystem.

Earlier initiatives such as PM Gati Shakti, National Logistics Policy, Sagarmala and Bharatmala, through a well-coordinated execution, have set the foundation to catapult the logistics industry in India. The next phase could focus on accelerating capacity creation across ports, industrialisation around coastal zones, improving coastal and hinterland connectivity at par with developed nations, and an evolved shipbuilding industry while deepening digital adoption across the supply chain, to support India's trade ambitions.

Development of deep-water ports, modernisation of port infrastructure and strengthened port-linked connectivity are laying the foundation for India's positioning as a global transshipment hub. Budget 2026 can further build on the momentum by introducing low-cost and long term financing, sharpening tax incentives and fast-track approval system to support private investors.

It would also be important to strengthen production-based incentives (PLIs) as well as tax incentives for MSMEs, to promote port-centric manufacturing and logistics activities. Further, indigenous manufacturing in coastal zones would aid in improving export trade from the country. That is an area which this budget could target to incentivise.

Shipbuilding merits sustained attention, especially following the announcement of the ₹69,725 crore maritime package in 2025 to boost domestic shipbuilding capacity. While the government has already introduced policy measures such as Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Scheme and the Shipbuilding Development Scheme, Budget 2026 could look at incentivising and fast-tracking the establishment of skill development centres and R&D centres, through international partnerships and private participation.

Budget 2026 could continue to support digitisation of logistics, as the industry would benefit immensely if public systems databases are integrated securely with organisational data.

Overall, the logistics industry expects Budget 2026 to continue the focus on incentivising private participation in infrastructure creation, capacity building, digitisation, skill development and sustainability - empowering the sector to support the journey toward Viksit Bharat 2047 with scale, resilience and global relevance."

Republic Day Special Offer

From page 3

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