

## 'Day of the Seafarer 2021' celebrated virtually Advanced Seafarers Wellness Centers to be provided at all ports: Shri Mansukh Mandaviya

■ BSN Network / Mumbai

'Day of the Seafarer-2021' was celebrated virtually on 25th June 2021 in the presence of a huge number of Maritime personalities, Seafarers and families in India and abroad by remembering the great efforts made by the seafarers to the civil society, giving thanks to them for their contribution to the world economy and appreciating the risks and personal costs they bear while on their jobs.

Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of State (I/C) for Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Minister of Chemical and Fertilizers offered his greetings to seafarers in his video message. The Minister assured that Advanced Seafarer Wellness Centers will be provided at all the ports. He mentioned that Government has planned in Maritime Vision 2030 for raising the number of Seafarers from 2,40,000 to above 5 Lakhs in the next ten years. Shri Mandaviya also wished that the share of the Women seafarers shall be increased and the Maritime Training Institutes in India shall be



prepared to impart the best training to the seafarers considering the new challenges in the shipping sector. The Minister also mentioned that Government has created a fund of welfare of the seafarers.

'M.T. Swarna Krishan' being the 1st Indian Flag Vessel of Shipping Corporation of India with all Women Officers onboard was awarded in this function and the crew members shared their experience of the voyage on this historic vessel in India.

The meritorious seafarers were awarded for their excellent academic achievements in the year 2020. The seafarers and their family members presented lovely cultural performances.

The Chief Guest of the function, Dr. Sanjeev Ranjan, Secretary, Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways greeted to all the seafarers and their families on this day and appreciated the tremendous contribution made by maritime community in keeping the global supply chain intact during the challenging times.

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■ BSN Network / Mumbai

Second edition of 'Voice of Ladies in Logistics - A day with seafarers', a virtual event was organised by WISTA and India Seatrade to commemorate the Day of the Seafarer on 25th June. It was a panel discussion focusing on how women seafarers have evolved in their roles over time, the professional challenges they face, and their experiences during the Covid-19 pandemic situation in 2020 and 2021. The event had speakers from the seafaring community, ship management companies, shipping lines, ports and other shipping related entities.

In her welcome address Summiit Cheema, President Wista India, welcomed all the eminent speakers of the day and spoke about the significance that 25th June particularly in the wake of the Covid 19 pandemic. She spoke about the working conditions and uncertainties related to supplies, crew change etc. and highlighted the tireless efforts of seafarers in keeping the global supply chain moving.

H. K Joshi; CMD, The Shipping Corporation of India, thanked Sanjam Sahi Gupta, founder of WISTA

## VOICE OF LADIES IN LOGISTICS appreciated the woman seafarer's contribution



India and MaritimeSheEO; and Director, Sitara Shipping | for working towards the cause of having greater diversity in the maritime sector. She cheered India's Sea trade for bringing together ladies on single platform. She also spoke about the key role played in the pandemic by seafarers in keeping the global, social and economic recovery. She said 'Day of the Seafarers' recognizes the spirit and contribution of the seafarer across vast seas and oceans. She also spoke about the difficult situation women seafarers faced during the pandemic like staying away from their families. She underscored the

difficulties faced by women while working in a male dominated environment. She saluted women seafarers for proving themselves invincible in yet another adverse profession. She also highlighted the effects on male seafarers due to women seafarers coming on board. Male seafarers had to adapt to the changes caused to their freedom and lifestyle.

The interactive speakers included: Ms. Kathryn Neilson, Director, Merchant Navy Training Board, UK Chamber of Shipping (UK); Capt. Ayse Asli BASAK, Co-Founder, She Farers Platform, Port Captain, Mid-Ship Group LLC (Turkey); Ms. Clarry Taylor, co-founder, Seacode; Ms. Jarin Chowdhury, Trainee Marine Engineer, ASP Ships Group (Bangladesh); Capt. Aakriti Barthwal -Marine Superintendent (QHSE).

The topics discussed during the webinar were:

Evolution of women seafarer's roles over time;

The role of seafarers as keyworkers and how they have become a backbone of the shipping industry since the pandemic;

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## 'Day of the Seafarer 2021' celebrated virtually

### Advanced Seafarers Wellness Centers to be provided at all ports: Shri Mansukh Mandaviya

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He expressed that development of new skill sets in the shipping industry shall be encouraged in the youngsters to create skilled manpower.

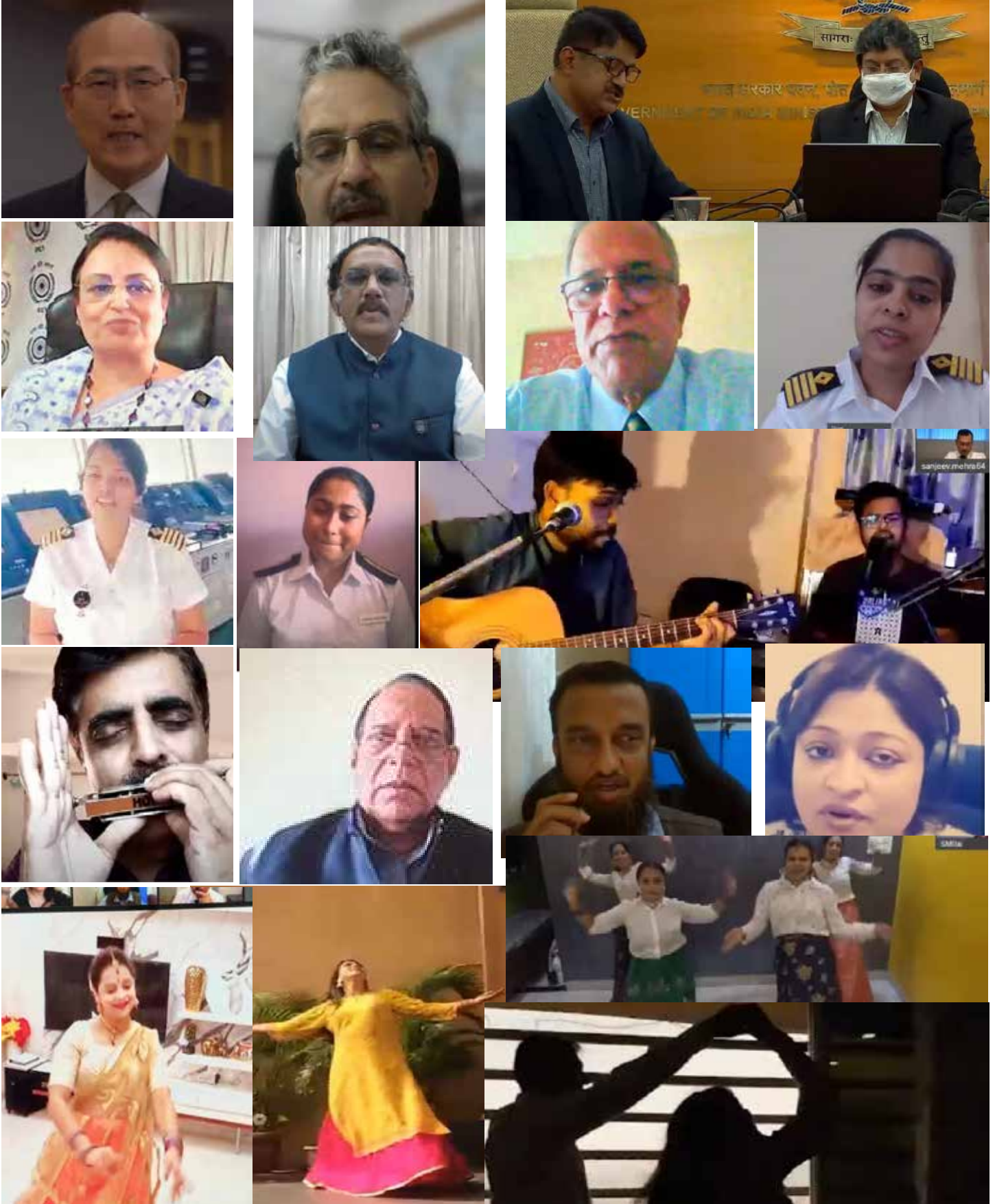
While addressing the gathering, **Shri Amitabh Kumar, Director General of Shipping informed the steps taken by the Government for the benefits of seafarers and their families.** He mentioned that the seafarers will be helped in getting complete doses of Covid vaccination in time. He informed that dual degree courses in nautical and engineering disciplines having emphasis on the new technology will be introduced from next academic year to make the seafarers ready to accept new challenges to bridge

the gap in traditional and modern technology in the shipping sector and keep their employability intact. He expressed that there is a need of increased participation of the women in maritime sector for enhancing the productivity, efficiency and discipline.

A video message of **Mr. Kitack Lim**, Hon'ble Secretary General, International Maritime Organization (IMO) was played wherein he expressed that Seafarers continue to deliver for all of us and now, let's ensure that we deliver for them.

**Shri Atul Ubale**, Chairman, National Maritime Day Celebrations (Organizing) Committee welcomed all dignitaries in the program and explained background of celebration of this Day.

**Dr. Raut Pandurang**, Member Secretary, NMCCDC (Central) Committee presented the vote of thanks.



## VOICE OF LADIES IN LOGISTICS appreciated the woman seafarer's contribution

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More than a year into the pandemic which has disrupted all walks of life including the crew change on ships, what has changed for women seafarers?

The future for women seafarers; Is seafaring becoming a profession of choice for women? What beckons them?

What can the shipping and logistics industry do to promote diversity by strengthening and enriching maritime careers at sea and ashore for women?

Despite all the biases and setbacks faced by women in the Seafaring profession, what drives them to perform, how do they stay passionate and motivated?

What steps should ship owners take towards gender Sensitization onboard ship? Will this create a positive impact on women joining the profession?

Shipping companies initiatives to manage and retain new generation seafarers.

The event was well received by the participant and it was sponsored by Transworld group, J.M.Baxi and Bharat Chemical.

**The message to the families of women aspirants wanting to get into the seafaring profession. Encouraging parents of young girls to support their daughters towards this profession.**



## APEDA in collaboration with Indian embassy organize virtual buyer seller meet for boosting agricultural and processed food products exports to Algeria

■ BSN Network / New Delhi

In a bid to boost agricultural and processed food products exports, APEDA in collaboration with Indian embassy has organized a virtual buyer seller meet (VBSM) with Algeria where key stakeholders in the agricultural value chains from both the countries participated.

More than 100 participants including exporters, processors and traders of agricultural commodities from India and Algeria participated in the VBSM titled 'Opportunities in Agri-sector between India and Algeria' organized on Wednesday.

Due to the ongoing Covid19 pandemic, the export promotion programmes were not possible to be organized physically. APEDA has been organizing a series of VBSMs with various countries for providing platform to the exporters and importers.

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## European Ports in favor of globalization and free trade

■ Agencies

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, this year's IAPH World Ports Conference is being held from June 21 to June 25, 2021, in a hybrid, mostly digital format. The IAPH Regional Session Europe was held on June 21 as part of the international conference's agenda. Not only European IAPH members, but also participants from around the world attended this time. The session focused on supply chain resilience and the position of European ports within the trends and forces shaping the global economy.

A multitude of events in recent years temporarily disrupted production in many companies worldwide. Shocks that affect global production are growing more frequent and severe. Ports and logistics chains will have to adapt to this situation, to provide stability despite regular disturbances. The COVID-19 pandemic and the Suez Canal blockade have proven that disruption can be expected at any time, and the consequences of climate change or geopolitical conflicts increasingly threaten established processes and supply chains, as well.

**Knut Alicke, Partner at McKinsey & Company, stated: "Our analyses show that all industries have experienced 1-2 month long disruptions in the supply chain every 3.7 years on the average – this will continue in the future. Companies will have to calculate their prices to compensate for these interruptions, which in the course of a decade can eat up about 40 percent of a year's profits. Therefore, those responsible for supply chains in various areas will have to re-think."**

Several options for strengthening value chain resilience were presented during the meeting. In the keynote, Knut Alicke also examined the feasibility of movement based on industry economics as well as the possibility that governments might act to bolster domestic production of some goods that they deem essential or strategic from a national security or competitiveness perspective.

**Knut Alicke added: "Resilience, a company's capability to deal with crisis situations, is more than just a buzz word. Companies have to consider more than just where goods are produced. Companies need to create a new balance between just-in-time production with lean supply chains and minimal stockpiles on the one hand and long-term resilience on the other. Among the measures that companies can take to**

increase resilience are detailed structuring of the lower levels in the supply chains and their digital interlinking to increase transparency, building up their own capacity as well as that of their suppliers so as to provide for flexible production at various sites, increasing stock, and improving their balance sheets."

**Jens Meier, CEO of Hamburg Port Authority, who hosted the IAPH regional meeting for the second time as IAPH Vice President Europe, organized this session bringing the message that global supply chains are still a source of strength, not weakness. A more globalized world makes port operations and their efficiency more challenging. However, their resilience comes from multiple sources of supply and constant adaptation to shocks to reduce the cost of disruptions and the time it takes to recover. During the panel discussion, he said, "The previous disruptions have given us the opportunity to be very well prepared. I always try to strengthen the whole supply chain process and the way to succeed is through partnerships in data sharing and digitalization." Jens Meier believes that ports have an opportunity to emerge from the current crisis more agile and innovative while benefiting from all the advantages that global trade offers.**

**Barbara Scheel Agersnap, CEO of Copenhagen Malmö Port, said: "Disruptions, such as COVID-19 and the blockage in the Suez Canal, will occur, but in order to enhance resilience and keep global supply chains intact, we, the actors within the logistics chain, must see ourselves as partners, not as customers and suppliers, with a great deal of shared responsibility and interdependence."** She added, "Digitization is key, also for Copenhagen Malmö Port, which has initiated a joint collaboration with TradeLens, a blockchain platform, to ensure a more seamless collaboration between the involved actors. Furthermore, ports have to be recognized as critical infrastructure and given the necessary conditions to function 24/7, all year long, connecting the blue motorways of the sea with a strong hinterland."

**Robin Mortimer, CEO Port of London Authority, said: "Throughout this pandemic it has been critical to be flexible not just with the strategy but also from frontline behaviour. The key to resilience for Port of London Authority has been the people and the strength of stakeholder relationships to understand an ever-changing environment."**