

PRESS RELEASE

FORGING MARITIME SYNERGY: COAST GUARD RALLIES INDUSTRY GIANTS TO POWER FLEET SUPPORT REFORMS

New Delhi, 08 Oct 25: In a decisive move to modernize its fleet support architecture and reduce dependence on foreign systems, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) brought together India's top shipbuilders and maritime technology firms for a high-impact **"Collaborative Fleet Support"** conference at its headquarters in New Delhi on Wednesday.

Chaired by Inspector General Sudhir Sahni, TM, Deputy Director General (Materiel and Maintenance), this landmark gathering witnessed participation from a cross-section of industry leaders, ranging from legacy public-sector shipyards to cutting-edge private OEMs. Their mission: to forge a unified, indigenous, and agile ecosystem for the maintenance, refit, and logistics support of India's expanding Coast Guard fleet. As the maritime domain rapidly evolves in both scale and complexity, the Indian Coast Guard is decisively advancing to keep its vessels mission-ready with minimal downtime. This conference marks a pivotal shift toward institutionalizing robust collaboration between operators and suppliers, ensuring logistics never hinder national maritime readiness.

Among the key players in attendance were shipbuilders like Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders (MDSL), Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), Hindustan Shipyard Ltd. (HSL), Cochin Shipyard Ltd. (CSL), and private sector partners like Larsen & Toubro (L&T), Chowgule Shiprepair, SWAN, Sea Blue, Ocean Blue, and Sadhav. Also present were prominent Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) and their representatives including Elecon, ZF, MJP, Kongsberg, GMMCO, MTU, and KOEL, many of whom form the technical backbone of shipboard systems.

In his address, IG Sahni underscored that operational availability has become a strategic necessity, not just a technical concern. He highlighted the need for timely access to trained workforce, critical spares, and responsive service support as the Coast Guard fleet continues to expand. Emphasizing collaboration as essential to tackling emerging maritime challenges, he exhorted foreign OEMs to localize their operations and enhance indigenous manufacturing, reinforcing that self-reliance is now an imperative and no longer an option.

Deliberations focused on three key areas: increasing indigenous content in critical systems under the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, improving product support to reduce vessel downtime, and streamlining supply chains to match the Coast Guard's growing operational demands. The conference concluded with a strong consensus on the need for continued collaboration, shared responsibility, and ongoing innovation, signalling a potential turning point in building a robust, self-reliant, and future-ready maritime support ecosystem.

