

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

Monthly Summary for the month of August 2026

1. Ease of Doing Business:

i. **E-Samudra:** On 08.08.2026, Hon'ble Minister launched a comprehensive digital platform that provides services for seafarers, shipping companies, ports and other maritime stakeholders and digitises ship registration, mortgage, seafarer welfare, security and all maritime services provided by Directorate General of Maritime Administration.

ii. **Seafarer Tracking Module:** Operationalized from 15.08.2026 under the e-Navik platform to enable near real-time monitoring of Indian seafarers and vessels worldwide, in view of the recent security issues.

iii. **GIFT City:** Entities registered in GIFT City have been unconditionally allowed to register their vessels under foreign flags with full operational flexibility. This is in addition to measures already undertaken to facilitate maritime investment and strengthen GIFT City as a competitive ship-owning, leasing and financing hub.

2. **Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA):** JNPA achieved significant milestones during August, 2026, including rising to 21st position among the world's Top 30 container ports in the H1 2026 review, from 28th position, with 13.6% year-on-year growth, and commencement of its first long-haul double-stack Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) rake operation.

3. **Paradip Port Authority (PPA):** On 21.08.2026, Hon'ble Minister inaugurated seven major infrastructure projects involving ₹427.80 crore at Paradip Port, marking the Port's 18.5-metre deep-draft capability. Concession agreements for three mechanisation projects involving ₹1,580.36 crore were also signed, with the objective of achieving 100% berth mechanisation by 2030, as against the present 80%.

4. **Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA):** An internal flyover project of 3.097 km costing ₹334.89 crore was approved at Visakhapatnam Port. The project is aimed at reducing congestion and improving seamless movement of cargo within the Port premises.

5. **Chennai Port Authority (ChPA):** Chennai Port strengthened its rail-based EXIM connectivity with the commencement of container rail movement between ICD Sanathnagar, Hyderabad and Chennai Port.

6. Shipbuilding/Ship-Recycling:

- In-principle approval given on 25.08.2026 for establishment of Greenfield shipbuilding clusters at Dighi (Maharashtra) and Kendrapara (Odisha). Each cluster is expected to have capacity of 1.3 million GT/Annum.

7. Key Development Proposals:

- PIB meeting for development of Offshore Wind Terminal at VoCPA at a cost of ₹768.74 crore held on 03.08.2026.
- PPPAC meeting for development of Second Container Terminal at Kamarajar Port at a cost of ₹4,288.26 crore held on 29.08.2026.
- DIB meeting for procurement of a new Lighthouse Tender Vessel to replace MV Sagardeep II at an estimated cost of ₹432.46 crore held on 27.08.2026

8. Inland Waterways:

- Two concrete jetties were successfully installed and commissioned at Basudevpur and in the Sundarban region of West Bengal, facilitating improved inland waterway connectivity and local transportation.
- 3.50 lakh MT cargo moved on Indo-Bangladesh Protocol Routes.
