

National Shipping Board (NSB)

30th May, 2025



National Shipping Board (NSB)

Constitution:

The National Shipping Board (NSB) is a statutory advisory body established under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958

Composition:

It comprises six Hon'ble Members of Parliament (four elected by the House of People and two by the Council of States) and “**sixteen other members**” from the Ship Owners’ Association, Seamen Association, and other stakeholders.

Tenure:

The Central Government Constitutes the National Shipping Board for a period of 2 years from the date of publication in the official Gazette of India

Members of NSB



**Shri Sameer Kumar
Khare,**
Retired IAS,
Chairperson



**Shri Ajithkumar
Sukumaran,**
Chief Surveyor , DGS



**Shri Mandeep
Singh**
Incharge, MoPSW



**Shri Rakesh
Singh**
Representative,
INSA



**Shri Anil Laxman
Devli**
CEO, INSA



Shri Rahul Modi
Representative,
CCTA



**Shri Milind
Kandalgaokar**
General Secretary,
NUSI



**Captain Tushar
Pradhan**
General Secretary, MUI

Members of NSB



Shri Arun Sharma,
Executive Chairman,
IRS



Shri Madhu S Nair
CMD, Cochin Shipyard
Ltd.



Dr. K. Murali,
Professor, IIT
Madras



Ms. Sanjam Sahi Gupta
Director, Sitara Shipping Ltd.



**Shri Shantanu
Kalita**
Advisor, IPA



Shri Pankaj Verma
Commodore, DIG Coast
Guard Headquarters



Shri Raghu R Nair
Comrade, Naval Operations, Indian
Navy Navigation and Direction specialist

Members of NSB



***Shri Sameer
Kumar Khare,
Retired IAS, Chairperson***

Shri Sameer Kumar Khare, a retired IAS officer, has held key roles in public policy, finance, and multilateral development. He served as Chairman of the Assam Administrative Tribunal and Chief Commissioner under the Right to Public Service Act. Internationally and represented six countries as Executive Director at the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and chaired ADB's Human Resource Committee.

His financial expertise shaped India's global economic engagements, with key roles in the IMF, World Bank, and AIIB, alongside serving as Government Nominee Director for NIIF Trust and United Bank of India.

Members of NSB



***Shri Ajithkumar Sukumaran,
Chief Surveyor , DGS***

Shri Ajithkumar Sukumaran, is a Marine Engineer turned Maritime Administrator, currently serving as the Chief Surveyor and Chief Examiner of Engineers at the Directorate General of Shipping (DGS), Government of India, Mumbai. He also holds the title of Additional Director General of Shipping (Engineering). He, shapes maritime policies, standards, and India's global presence. He is an IMU Council Member, TED19 Chairman at BIS, and has led Indian delegations to IMO's key committees on safety and environment. He has represented India at International Maritime Conventions and served as a Government nominee in major port trusts.

Members of NSB



Shri Mandeep Singh,
Incharge, MoPSW

Shri Mandeep Singh Randhawa, an IPS officer from the 2006 AGMUT batch, is known for strategic reforms and tech-driven policing.

Since April 2021, he has served as Director in the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, overseeing maritime infrastructure and regulatory development. He is actively involved in drafting key legislative bills, including the Coastal Shipping Bill, 2025, and the Merchant Shipping Bill, 2025.

His expertise in both urban policing and maritime policy makes him a key figure in shaping India's law enforcement and maritime governance.

Members of NSB



**Shri Rakesh
Singh
INSA**

Shri Rakesh Singh, is a distinguished Master Mariner with 15 years of sailing experience and over 30 years in the maritime sector ashore, specializing in commercial and international maritime law. He founded his ship-owning company in 2003, operating vessels along the Indian coast and inland waterways. Since 2015, he has served as Secretary of the ICC Shipping Association and represents ICCSA on the Technical Advisory Committee of the Indian Register of Shipping.

A leading marine insurance consultant linked to the London Maritime Arbitrators Association, he lectures on maritime subjects and often appears on media channels to share insights on the sector.

Members of NSB



Shri Anil Laxman Devli
CEO, INSA

Shri Anil Laxman Devli, is a trained lawyer and a key figure in the Indian maritime industry with over 20 years of experience. He currently serves as the CEO of the Indian National Shipowners' Association, advocating for the growth of Indian flag shipping. Throughout his career, he has held leadership positions at publicly listed Indian ship-owning and operating companies.

His work involves lobbying with the government, think tanks, and industry organizations to promote investment and policy development in the sector. He believes that strengthening India's maritime power is essential for the country's global relevance and economic growth.

Members of NSB



Shri Rahul Modi
Representative, CCTA

Shri Rahul Modi, Managing Director of Pushpak Logistics Solutions Pvt. Ltd., has played a key role in transforming coastal multimodal logistics in India. His efforts focus on reducing road transport dependency while maximizing cargo movement via sea, river, and rail. He pioneered coastal shipping initiatives, linking major and non-major ports, helping cut freight costs and enhance efficiency.

His work has positioned Kandla Port as a coastal hub and expanded bulk and container cargo operations nationwide. Modi has also been instrumental in promoting domestic container manufacturing under the Make in India initiative, supporting India's Maritime Vision 2030.

Members of NSB



***Shri Milind
Kandalgaonkar***
General Secretary, NUSI

Shri Milind Kandalgaonkar is a Trade Unionist and the General Secretary-cum-Treasurer of the National Union of Seafarers of India (NUSI). He holds a Bachelor's degree in Science from Mumbai University and has worked in the shipping industry since 1986, including as an Able Seaman with the Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. He has been with NUSI since 2004 and is involved in various groups focused on seafarers' rights and empowerment, particularly for young and women seafarers.

Members of NSB

Captain Savio
General Secretary, MUI

Members of NSB



***Mr. Arun
Sharma,
Executive Chairman,
IRS***

Shri Arun Sharma is a distinguished maritime leader with extensive experience in shipping management, strategy, and operations. As a marine engineer, he has held top positions in major companies and played a crucial role in advancing the Indian Register of Shipping (IRS).

As IACS Chairman (2019–2020), he provided leadership during the pandemic, earning widespread recognition. His contributions have been honoured with India's highest maritime recognition, the Varuna Award (2021), along with several Lifetime Achievement awards. He was also featured in Lloyd's List's Top 100 Most Influential People in Shipping.

Members of NSB



Mr. Madhu S Nair
CMD, Cochin Shipyard
Ltd.

Shri Madhu S Nair has been at the helm of Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL) since 2016, driving its expansion and modernization. Under his leadership, CSL expanded to seven units and completed major projects, including India's first Indigenous Aircraft Carrier, INS Vikrant. He has advancements in green shipping, played a pivotal role in India's Maritime Vision 2030, and established the National Centre of Excellence for Green Ports and Shipping.

Through global partnerships, CSL has ventured into innovative shipbuilding technologies such as hydrogen fuel cell and hybrid vessels. His leadership earned him top industry awards, solidifying his maritime influence.

Members of NSB



Dr. K. Murali,
Professor, IIT Madras

Dr. K. Murali is a Professor in the Department of Ocean Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras since March 2009. He previously held positions as an Associate Professor and Assistant Professor in the same department. His experience includes roles as a Senior Research Engineer in Singapore and a Postdoctoral Fellow at the National University of Singapore. Dr. Murali has also worked as a Senior Project Officer and Project Associate at IIT Madras. He has numerous publications in his field, with his latest focusing on "Oblique wave interaction with dual submerged oscillating buoy as WEC near a partially reflecting wall."

Members of NSB



Ms. Sanjam Sahi Gupta
Director, Sitara Shipping Ltd.

Ms. Sanjam Sahi Gupta, is the Director of Sitara Shipping Pvt Ltd and a leading advocate for gender diversity in the maritime industry. As a founding member of WISTA India, she promotes women's representation and contributed to the "Diversity Handbook." Sanjam serves on the Executive Board of the World Maritime University and received the Sandvik Gender Award in 2018. She launched Maritime SheEO to drive diversity solutions and is a member of the Diversity Committee of the International Chamber of Shipping, as well as a gender expert with the UN ESCAP and the International Maritime Organization.

Members of NSB



***Shri Shantanu
Kalita***
Advisor, IPA

Shri Shantanu Kalita, Senior Advisor to IPA, collaborates with MoPSW on maritime policies and promotes India's maritime sector. Previously, he led an IT startup and pioneered India's first seaplane operation. A globetrotter, he has visited 40+ countries, gaining valuable global perspectives.

Hailing from Assam, he is deeply engaged in social and cultural initiatives and holds key positions in major sports organizations, serving as Joint Secretary of the Assam Olympic Association and Vice President of the Boxing Federation of India. His diverse expertise spans maritime, aviation, technology, and sports, making him a dynamic force in multiple industries.

Members of NSB



Pankaj Verma
*Principal Director,
Coast Guard Headquarters*

Shri Pankaj Verma, a 1996 batch Indian Coast Guard officer, is Principal Director (Operations) at Coast Guard HQ, Delhi. With 29 years of service, he has held key operational roles, trained ships, led coastal security efforts, and participated in bilateral exercises.

An MSc Nautical Science and BSc Electronics graduate, he also holds professional qualifications from Indian and US Naval institutions. His 15-year sailing experience spans Asian and African regions.

Honored with the Tatrakshak Medal, his interests include electronics, current affairs, and sports.

Members of NSB



Raghu R Nair
Navigation and Direction
specialist

Shri Raghu R Nair, commissioned into the Indian Navy in 1998, has served in key afloat and ashore roles, including commanding four warships. A specialist in Navigation and Direction, he has managed Naval Operations across various capacities throughout his career. In recognition of his contributions, he was awarded the Nausena Medal in 2024.

Powers and Functions

Powers:

The NSB has power to regulate its own procedure. No other power is conferred on the NSB as it is an advisory body.

Functions:

The function of the NSB as given under Section 5 of the MS Act, is to advise the Central Government on —

- (a) matters relating to Indian shipping, including the development thereof; and
- (b) on such other matters arising out of this Act as the Central Government may refer to it for advice.

Current Initiatives

| S.No | Sub-Group |
|------|---|
| 1. | Shipping Policy and Merchant Shipping Act |
| 2. | Increases in Indian Tonnage |
| 3. | Multimodal Transportation |
| 4. | Increase in Employment of Seafarers, seafarer welfare and other issues related to seafarer. |
| 5. | Promotion of Ship Building and Making India a Global hub for Manufacturing of Green Tugs, Port/Pilot crafts, Coastal vessels and Ferries |
| 6. | Promotion of Energy Efficient and Low-cost Coastal Shipping for Passenger and Freight. |
| 7. | Creation of National Single portal for Pre Arrival Notification. |
| 8. | Transition to IMO's Maritime Single Window by 01/01/2024 and digital enablement. |
| 9. | Development of Galathea Bay as Shipping transshipment hub for BIMSTEC Countries. |
| 10. | Partner Institutions for developing Human Resources, Training, Automation, Digitalization and Research |

Thank You.