



## India can add 8% to its exports if it puts its last mile connect in the fast lane

India's last mile connectivity hinges on its road network to move things. However, poor condition of roads and absence of a viable alternative is hitting India's economic growth.



The critical role played by India's logistics sector in the country's economic growth story could not be understated. Instrumental in moving goods across its huge length and breadth (about 3.287 million square km), Indian roads are the lifeline of the logistics sector. However, the logistics sector itself is highly unorganised, fragmented and currently mired in multiple challenges leading to operational inefficiency on several fronts.

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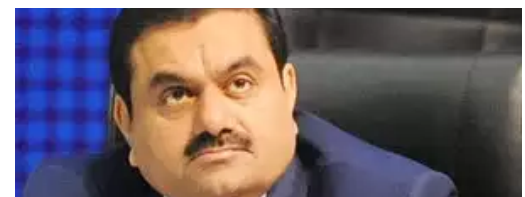
### MAERSK TIES UP WITH INDIA'S BLACKBUCK FOR EXPORT-IMPORT TRUCK AGGREGATION



### HOW PORT COMMUNITY SYSTEM, AN E-COMMERCE PORTAL, IS CHANGING INDIA'S MARITIME INFRASTRUCTURE



### ADANI GROUP IN TALKS WITH KRISHNAPATNAM PORT TO ACQUIRE MAJORITY STAKE



### NCLAT ASKS COC TO APPROVE RESOLUTION PLAN FOR DIGHI PORT IN 3 WEEKS



# Maersk ties up with India's BlackBuck for export-import truck aggregation

Maersk has announced its entry into India's trucking services by tying up with an aggregator, BlackBuck, which has some 300,000 open trucks on its platform. The tie-up with BlackBuck will help customers of Maersk book containerised trucks to carry export-import containerised cargo within India.

Globally, Maersk, a company known for its shipping and port terminal services, has already announced its plans to get into the land logistics space. It has a similar tie-up in the US with Loadsmart, Sriram Narayanasami, Head-Commercial Process and Vice-President, Maersk, told BusinessLine.

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## How Port Community System, an e-commerce portal, is changing India's Maritime infrastructure

That India's ranking on World Bank's ease of doing business index improved from 100 in 2017 to 77 in 2018 has made news. What isn't well known is that a vital role in this jump was played by the IT-enabled integration of India's maritime infrastructure. While the Port Community System (PCS), an e-commerce portal, was introduced by the Indian Ports Association (IPA) in record time, efforts are already underway to shift to PCS1x, an upgraded version of the programme, which would allow India to move up further on the ease of doing business index.

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## Adani group in talks with Krishnapatnam Port to acquire majority stake

Gautam Adani-led Adani group is in discussions with the promoters of Krishnapatnam Port Company Ltd (KPCL) for acquiring majority stake, a deal if materialises would be about Rs 5,500 crore, sources close to the port promoters said on Tuesday.

The all-weather port with 365 days of operations is located at Krishnapatnam in Nellore District of Andhra Pradesh, north of Chennai.

"Both the parties have signed term sheet. Adanis are showing interest to acquire nearly 72 per cent of the stake in the KPCL.

Due diligence is being carried out. The deal size once materialises, could be around Rs 5,500 crore," the sources told PTI. KPCL was formed by the Hyderabad-based Navayuga Group by winning the mandate from the then AP Government to develop the existing minor port into modern, deep water and high Productivity port, on BOST (BuildOperate-Share-Transfer) concession basis for 50 years.

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# NCLAT asks CoC to approve resolution plan for Dighi Port in 3 weeks

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) has asked the Committee of Creditors of Dighi Port Ltd to approve a resolution plan for the debt-ridden firm within three weeks. A two-member NCLAT bench, headed by Chairperson Justice S J Mukhopadhaya, also directed the Committee of Creditors (CoC) to evaluate the proposal submitted by its promoters. "While approving so, the CoC will consider as to whether the plan as may be approved is better than the proposal as given by the promoters/appellant, taking into consideration the viability and feasibility and financial matrix of all resolution plans," the NCLAT said. "It is accepted that the matter will be decided within three weeks," it added. Dighi Port, which is being developed by Balaji Infra Projects in the Raigad district of Maharashtra, is going through insolvency resolution process and -- Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) were among bidders.



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## India: Cargo volume at major ports grows 2% in April-July as sectors slow down

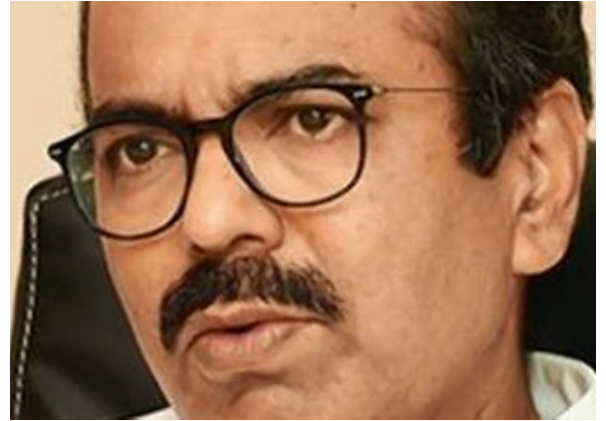
Cargo growth at India's major ports fell to two per cent in April-July this fiscal year. Ports in Karnataka's New Mangalore, Goa's Mormugao, and Tamil Nadu's Chennai and Kamarajar (Ennore) reported cargo shipment decelerating in the period. The Mormugao port was hit after the Supreme Court banned mining in the state and neighbouring Karnataka curbed iron ore exports. Other ports were affected by cyclical slowdown in key sectors. "The cargo performance of some of the key major ports has been muted. Steel sector demand has flagged and liquid cargo has not shown the growth as was anticipated," said a top official of a major port. Liquid cargo like crude oil, petroleum products, LPG and LNG grew by 2.63 per cent, contributing largely to muted volumes. Fertiliser cargo shipments were a dampener too. Raw fertilizer cargo moved through major ports nosedived 17.66 per cent whereas finished fertilizers slid by 1.74 per cent. Thermal coal shipments witnessed a de-growth of 10.1 per cent but were somewhat offset by coking coal that continued its growth momentum led by imports, rising 16.18 per cent. The other positive for major ports is the robust comeback of iron ore cargo. After a dull FY19, iron ore cargo volumes spiked 22 per cent year-on-year (y-o-y). Ports at Haldia, Paradip and Vishakapatnam profited from the surge in iron ore shipments.

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# Coastal shippers demand more facilities at ports

Coastal shipping players want priority berthing and more free time at ports as India looks to increase the share of coastal cargo movement. This emerged at a conference organised here recently by Concor and Maritime Gateway. Container Corporation of India (Concor), the PSU which started a weekly coastal shipping service in January, between Kandla and Tuticorin, is witnessing an increase in the total logistics costs as its ships face delay due to lack of dedicated infrastructure for coastal cargo at ports, where priority is given to foreign vessels to berth, according to Concor CMD V Kalyana Rama.



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## 2 major Indian ports on alert over 'Pakistani trained commandos' but will Islamabad attack?

At least two of India's major ports were alerted over a potential intrusion by suspected Pakistani-trained commandos. Analysts told RT that New Delhi indeed fears this scenario but the alert may also be a warning to Islamabad. Security was beefed up at the Kandla and Mundra ports in northwestern Gujarat state, police announced on Thursday. The measure was triggered by an intelligence report suggesting that groups of Pakistani commandos or militants supposedly trained by the Pakistani military may use sea route to cause "disturbance or terrorist attack" in the area, local media reported.



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## FDI needed to give boost to coastal shipping in India : Director-General (Shipping)

Director-General (Shipping) Amitabh Kumar said that there is an imperative need to bring in foreign direct investments (FDI) into the maritime sector. He said that this could give a boost to coastal shipping, as the cost of finance is high in the country. For this purpose, he added that the regulatory regime has to be relaxed. In an interview here on Friday, he said the regulatory framework could be relaxed to facilitate 49 per cent FDI to stimulate coastal shipping, with 51 per cent remaining with the Indians and with it the ownership of the vessel. Further, overseas Indians should also be allowed to invest in the sector for the purpose and the vessels could be registered in the country.



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# India Logistics Technology Summit deliberates on efficiency for freight forwarders

FreightBro, a digital platform for freight forwarders and Journal of Commerce (JOC.com), a portal on container shipping & logistics have organised the latter's first 'India Logistics Technology Summit' in Navi Mumbai on August 22. Eric Johnson, senior editor, technology, JOC, moderated the panels which deliberated on how software can make key ocean freight processes and capabilities more efficient and less costly, potentially positioning India as the key growth market for world trade in the coming years.



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## Mumbai: Foundation stone for new liquid cargo jetty laid at JNPT

Union Minister of State for Shipping, Mansukh Mandaviya (/search?query=Mansukh Mandaviya) on Friday laid the foundation stone for development of an additional Liquid Cargo Jetty at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (/search?query=Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust) (JNPT) in Mumbai.

Built at a cost of over Rs 300 crore, the project will cater to the increased demand for handling liquid cargo like edible oil, LPG, molasses and other chemicals.



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## Tata, Adani, Essar file bids to build captive berths at Paradip port

Tata Steel, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) and Essar Ports have submitted initial bids to build captive berths (for own use) at the western dock of Paradip Port Trust with an investment of ₹2,040 crore. But the port may have to drop the captive route for developing the western dock berths, as the Public Private Partnership Appraisal Committee (PPPAC) has directed the port trust Paradip and the Shipping Ministry to rework the technical qualification criteria to attract more bidders. Paradip Port Trust and the Shipping Ministry had favoured the captive model as the "ideal option" for developing the western dock berths based on the 'Captive Policy for Award of Waterfront and Associated Land to Port Dependent Industries (PDI) in Major Ports, 2016'.



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# Adoption Of Big Data And Data Analytics In Logistics

The onus for progress of a business in contemporary scenario, as we all know, is lying on the information adoption. Huge statistics exist in every sector while its analytics is frequenting the fascination and need of the world. Big data has been the key word for performance improvement and decision maker as defined in many Industries. Prevailing since a decade now, Big Data has ushered the world with its pervasiveness proving itself as a speedy and cost effective entity. Controlling the three V's – Volume, Velocity and Variety, it has given impetus to the improvement of the Industry. There are enormous approaches where data has been adopted by its stakeholders but one domain that has boomed to infinitude with its application is the realm of Logistics.

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## Indian logistics tech market blossoming

The market for technology to enable India's shippers and freight forwarders to be more efficient is blossoming, speakers at JOC's inaugural India Logistics Technology Summit in Mumbai said.

Software models based on those in other regions — like digital freight forwarding, rate marketplaces, and shipment management systems — are flourishing based on service provider fragmentation in the market and a reliance on offline processes.

Speakers said a couple of dynamics are driving broader use of logistics technology in India: a need to digitize the quoting, booking, and payment process for shippers; the relative ease of implementation of such tools at a price point that's amenable to the market; and the changing of generational leadership at Indian importers, exporters, and forwarders, with younger generations seeking ways to implement browser-based technologies.

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