



Bharat Pravah-India along its Shores

Why in News?

Recently, the Ministry of Shipping, Waterways, and Ports has launched '**Bharat Pravah-India along its Shores**', an initiative to highlight the significance and **imagery of rivers, ports, and shipping in everyday life through** a series of nationwide events.

- Kochi, Vizhinjam in Kerala and Galathea Bay ports in Andaman Nicobar Islands have made some headway in the direction of becoming full-fledged transshipment hubs.

What is Bharat Pravah?

▪ About:

- **Bharat Pravah** will serve **as a common platform to bring together stakeholders from different walks** for the purpose of creating a larger vision of shipping, rivers, seas & people.
- It will highlight the challenges, policy issues and future goals relating to the maritime sector.

▪ Themes:

- Rivers and Sea-Centric Development in India- the Historical lens.
- Sea, River, Ports and Ship in Folk Culture and Literature.
- Representation of Ports and Shipping in Popular Culture.
- Role of Shipping and Ports in India's Development in the last 30 years.
- The Politics and Economy of Privatisation of Ports.
- Inland Waterways - Arteries of Growth, their Role and Significance.
- Greening Ports and Shipping Industry.
- Future of Ports and Shipping Industry- Management, Challenges and Policies.

What are the Important Points related to Ports in India?

- Government is seeking that **all ports to prepare a master plan to become mega ports by 2047.**
- Currently, nearly **75% of India's transshipment cargo is handled at ports outside India.** The **ports of Colombo, Singapore, and Klang handle more than 85%** of this cargo, according to Ministry data.
 - Transshipment hubs are ports that have connections to originating and destination ports.
- While India was looking to build mega ports which will be digitised and more environment-friendly, there are challenges along the way.
- India does roughly **35% of containerization, while other developing countries do 62% to 65% containerization.**
 - Currently India does **more break bulk shipping rather than using containers,** however, we are making rapid progress towards containerization.
- India's share in world trade is **a meagre 2%.** Balance of trade is towards import. India stands at **44 on the logistics performance index.**
 - The reason for low ranking is the **absence of appropriate infrastructure and procedural reforms.**

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