



National Maritime Heritage Complex

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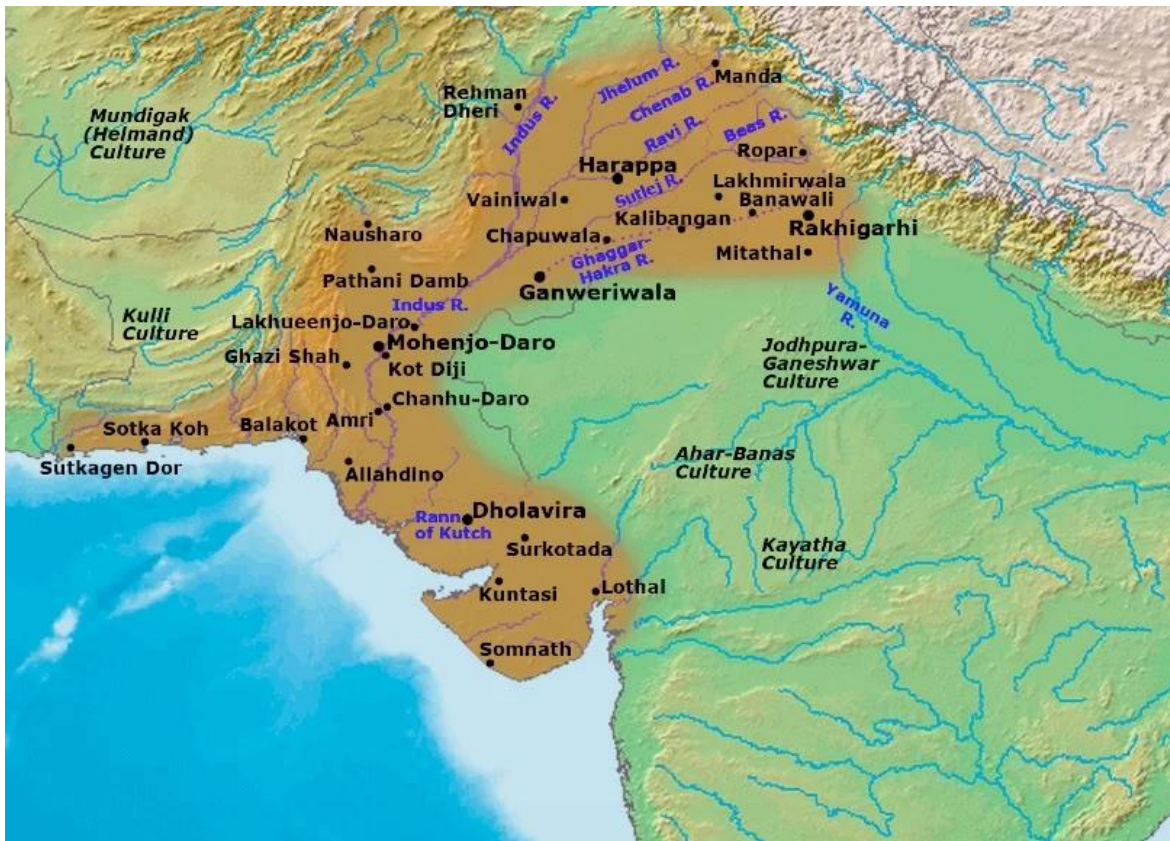
The **Chief of the Naval Staff** visited the [National Maritime Heritage Complex \(NMHC\)](#) at **Lothal, Gujarat**.

National Maritime Heritage Complex

- **About:** It is an ambitious **cultural and tourism project** in **Lothal, Gujarat** that aims to **highlight India's rich and diverse 4,500-year-old maritime heritage** and establish the **largest maritime heritage complex in the world**.
 - Key projects include a **world-class Lighthouse Museum**, coastal state pavilions, and a maritime-themed eco-resort.
- **Development and Funding:** Under India's [Sagarmala Programme](#), the **Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPSW)** is developing the NMHC, with its **Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships (DGLL)** funding the **world's tallest [Lighthouse Museum](#)**.

Lothal

- **About:** It is one of the **southernmost sites of the [Harappan civilization](#)**, located in the **Bhal region of Gujarat**, between the **Bhogavo and Sabarmati rivers** near the **Gulf of Khambhat**.
 - The name **Lothal** in Gujarati means "**mound of the dead**", similar to **Mohenjo-daro** in Sindhi.
 - The site was **discovered in 1954** by **S.R. Rao** was nominated as **a [UNESCO World Heritage Site](#) in April 2014**.
- **Significance:** It is famous for having the **world's earliest known dock**, which connected the city to an ancient course of the **Sabarmati river**.
 - It was also famous for **bead workshops**, and **maritime trade links with Mesopotamia and Egypt** dating back nearly **4,000 years**.



Did you Know?



- The earliest man-made dockyard was discovered during excavations at Lothal, Gujarat in 1957.
- Corroborating archaeological evidences have proved that the Harappans had maritime trade and cultural links far and beyond the Indian coastline.
- Links as far as Mesopotamia and Egypt in the West to Japan in Far East have been found.
- In a nutshell, India has a maritime history spanning over 4500 years.

Read More: [Lothal: World's Earliest Known Dock](#)

