

India Maritime Heritage Conclave

Why in News?

Recently India's 1st Maritime Heritage Conclave (IMHC 2024) was held in December 2024 in New Delhi.

- It is the *First India Maritime Heritage Conclave*.
- **Aim** - To celebrate India's maritime legacy and its profound contributions to global trade, culture, and innovation.

India's modern maritime strength includes a 7,500 km coastline, 13 major ports and 200 non-major ports. Indian ports handle 95% of trade volume and contribute 70% of trade value, taking advantage of their strategic location in the Indian Ocean region.

- **Nodal ministry** - Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.
- **Objectives**
 - Showcase entire India's Maritime Legacy
 - Global Cultural Confluence
 - Technological Evolution
 - Spiritual and Cultural Exchange
 - Maritime Heritage Preservation

The poster for the India Maritime Heritage Conclave 2024 features a large image of a traditional wooden ship under construction on the left. At the top left, there are logos for the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sagarmala, and the Department of Maritime Heritage. The title 'INDIA MARITIME HERITAGE CONCLAVE 2024' is prominently displayed in the top right. Below the title, the word 'Objectives:' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Five numbered circles (1-5) are arranged vertically, each containing a number and a corresponding objective. The objectives are: 1. Showcase at one place entire India's Maritime Legacy; 2. Global Cultural Confluence; 3. Technological Evolution; 4. Spiritual and Cultural Exchange; 5. Maritime Heritage Preservation.

INDIA MARITIME HERITAGE CONCLAVE 2024

Objectives:

- 1 Showcase at one place entire India's Maritime Legacy:**
 - Highlight India's advancements in shipbuilding, navigation, and maritime trade.
- 2 Global Cultural Confluence:**
 - Trace cultural, religious, and economic confluence between India and Southeast Asia, Far East Asia, West Asia, the Mediterranean, Africa, Europe and beyond.
- 3 Technological Evolution:**
 - Explore India's contributions to maritime technology, from ancient times through various cultural phases till date.
- 4 Spiritual and Cultural Exchange:**
 - Discuss India's role in spreading philosophies and practices through maritime routes.
- 5 Maritime Heritage Preservation:**
 - Raise awareness about the conservation of maritime archaeological sites, monuments artefacts, ancient ports, lighthouses etc.

- **2024 Theme** - Towards Understanding India's Position in Global Maritime History.
- **Global participation** - Representatives from 11 countries.
- **Significance** - It emphasized on skill development, youth engagement, and cultural preservation to carry over nation's maritime legacy.

National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC)

- **Located in** - Lothal, Gujarat.
- **Focus** - To showcase India's ancient maritime techniques, including shipbuilding and bead-making, reflecting the nation's role as a global connector.
- It will be one of the ***world's largest maritime complexes***, integrating both historical and modern maritime activities.
- **Features**
 - 4 thematic galleries.
 - Open Aquatic Gallery and Lighthouse Museum.
 - Eco-resorts, theme parks and Maritime Research Institutes.

Reference

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