

Q Do india's negligible presence and interventions in the International Maritime Organization is affecting its interest? Comment?

India has one of the earliest member of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) having ratified its Convention and joined it as a member state in the year of 1959. In 2017, India re-elected to International Maritime Organisation Council to the body under Category B. According to IMO's Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic (FAL) Convention of 1965, smooth and efficient maritime transport at global level assured.

Indian Initiatives in IMO

* India launched a Port Community System "PCSIX" - at ports in 2018

* PCSIX is a cloud based new generation technology with user friendly interface.

New Rules of IMO and India's Stand

New rules of IMO

- 1) All the Public Authorities to establish system for the electronic exchange of informations related to Maritime transport.
- 2) Reduce Administrative burden and increasing the efficiency of maritime trade.

India's Stand in IMO

- 1) India's Permanent membership Post at London remained vacant for the last 95 years
- 2) Not actively participate in IMO meetings, and recent review of IMO document shows that the number of submissions made by India in recent past has been meagre and not in proportion with India's stake in global shipping.
- 3) But India launched its cloud based technology PSA-IX as a part of single window clearance in maritime trade, but India's indigenously developed NAVIC (Navigation with indian Constellation) not reached at global level yet.

How Negligible Participation affects in india

- 1) Trade with india become more Cumbersome
- 2) Strategic location of india and its threat of "Piracy", india Considered as a "High Risk Nation". Without Support of IMO, it is difficult for india to Overcome issues.
- 3) In European Union nations make new Legislative mandates, fitment of new equipment and changes the ship structural designs according to new demand IMO, but India not yet to take any measure.

The "Enrica Lexie" Shooting incident of 2012, off coast of Kerala was a direct fallout of the demarcational issues. The Support of IMO is unavoidable then india should actively participate in further conventions of IMO.