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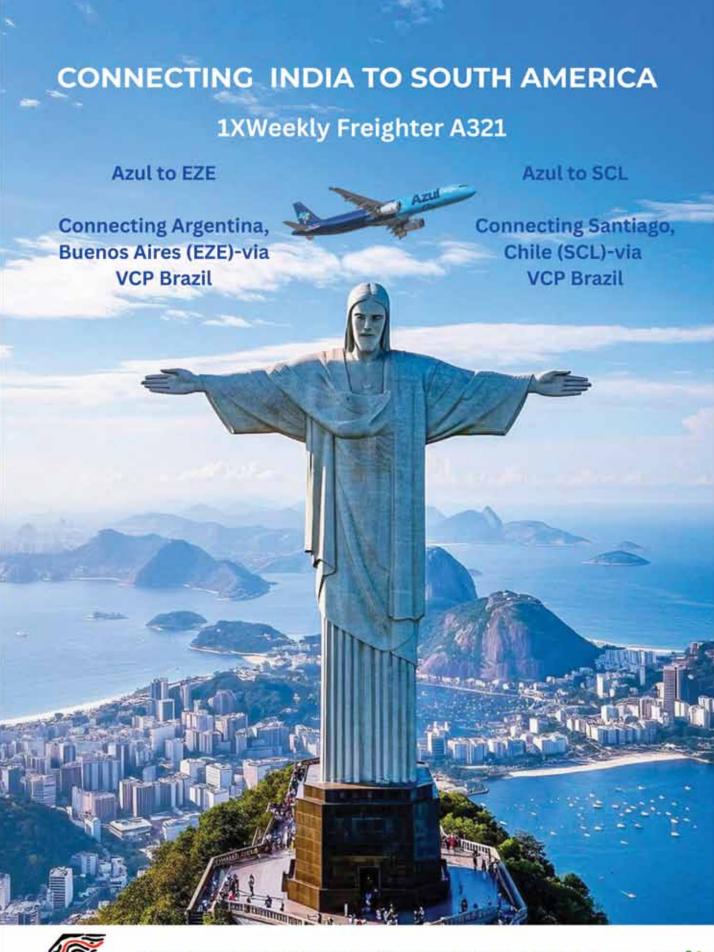
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India Cargo Awards return to honour industry's finest

The 10th edition of India Cargo Awards is back with a vision to honour experts who have contributed to the success of the air cargo and logistics industry. To be held at Le Méridien, New Delhi on 8 September, the event aims to celebrate those instrumental in the sector's growth.

y CT Bureau

he much-awaited 10th edition of the India Cargo Awards 2025 is back to felicitate the stalwarts of the air cargo and logistics sector. Known as the 'Oscars of the industry',

the event is being hosted by DDP Group in New Delhi on 8 September.

The function serves as an all-India platform created with a vision to recognise skill and excellence across various domains, including air, road, rail, allied services, warehousing, technology and 3PL, among others.

The ceremony is a proud moment to celebrate the visionaries and professionals of the air cargo and logistics industry. It is an occasion to recognise their relentless efforts, resilience and contri-



bution in driving efficiency, fostering trade and strengthening India's position in the global supply chain. By felicitating these trailblazers, we honour their achievements







and inspire the industry to continue embracing excellence, technology and sustainability in shaping the future of logistics.

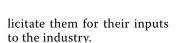
The awards are a testament to the spirit of resilience, adaptability and innovation that defines the industry, while also serving as an inspiration for the next generation.

The upcoming event is a moment of pride and celebration, bringing together leaders and stalwarts to fe-

HIGHLIGHTS

The India Cargo Awards serve as a platform to recognise skill and excellence across the industry

The ceremony will be attended by the who's who of the air cargo and logistics industry



This event is dedicated to honouring the vision, perseverance and excellence of individuals and organisations who have contributed to enhancing efficiency, connectivity and competitiveness in the air cargo and logistics ecosystem. By honouring these achievers, we not only recognise their commitment but also acknowledge the

vital role they play in strengthening global trade and supporting the economic progress of India.

As we gather to celebrate these milestones, the ceremony echoes our collective aspiration to build a stronger, smarter and more sustainable logistics future. The awards ceremony will be filled with glitz and glamour and will be attended by the who's who of the industry.





ACFI, TIACA form strategic alliance to boost air cargo

This MoU marks a significant step in fostering closer collaboration between TIACA and ACFI, reflecting their shared commitment to driving innovation, sustainability and resilience in the cargo industry. This collaboration will enable knowledge sharing, support capacity building and accelerate progress.



ir Cargo Forum India (ACFI) and TIACA signed an agreement during the ACFI Annual Conclave 2025 to strengthen cooperation between the two bodies in promoting the role

The pact between TIACA and ACFI will bring them together to promote aviation, specifically air cargo, within India

of aviation — specifically air cargo — in economic and social development within India.

"ACFI is a nationwide forum representing the Indian





air cargo, logistics and supply chain industry. ACFI has partnered with the industry as well as the government for propelling progress, harmony and integrated development and economic prosperity of the Indian economy," said Sanjiv Edward, President, ACFI.

"This agreement leads to collaboration between TIACA and ACFI, reflecting the shared commitment for driving innovation, sustainability and resilience in the air cargo industry. By combining our strengths, we aim to elevate India's role in

the global supply chain and support broader economic and social development across the region," informed Steven Polmans, Chair, TIACA.

"We are delighted to partner with ACFI, which underscores our mutual dedication to advancing air cargo's role in economic growth and community development. This collaboration will enable knowledge sharing, support capacity building and accelerate progress on key initiatives, such as sustainability, safety and digital transformation," said Glyn Hughes, DG, TIACA.

The focal points of this agreement include safety, collaboration, capacity building efficiency, policy advo-

cacy, supply chain safety, sustainability/ESG, BlueSky Programme Access, climate action platform, knowledge exchange, Cargo Service Quality (CSQ) and the like.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The MoU marks a significant step in fostering closer collaboration between TIACA and ACFI
- It will drive innovation, sustainability and resilience in the air cargo industry
- This collaboration will enable knowledge sharing, support capacity building and accelerate progress on key initiatives like sustainability, safety and digital transformation



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ROCKETING FORWARD AMID DISRUPTIONS

India's struggle to emerge as a developed nation by 2047 comes amid a world beset with disruptions. These interruptions are pushing India to speed up reforms and position itself as a resilient growth country. On its path to becoming Viksit Bharat, the country is forging ahead through policy measures, digital transformation, green energy investments and inclusive development strategies.



Ritika Arora Bhola

ndia's vision of becoming a developed nation ■ by 2047 comes at a time when the world is struggling with multiple global disruptions — the ongoing tariff war, Iran-Israel and conflicts Russia-Ukraine disrupting supply chains, geopolitical conflicts and economic slowdown spread chaos among cargo agents.

Battling disruptions, India has come a long way turning challenges into opportunities by using them as catalysts for structural reforms, digital adoption and supply chain realignment on its journey towards becoming Viksit Bharat. In

recent weeks, the Prime Minister of India has taken many bold decisions to put the country 'first' and protect the interests of its people. When

Highlights

single markets



- PLI schemes are helping India build domestic strength and substitute critical imports
- **Dedicated investments** in SEZs, DFCs, MMLPs, **National Highways** contributing to growth

Donald Trump, President of the USA, tried to disrupt Indo-US trade flows by imposing 50 per cent tariff on Indian exports to the USA,

Impact



- **Investments in robust** infrastructure, advanced technologies are driving inclusive growth
- By focusing on skilling youth and expanding healthcare. India is building human capital that can withstand external shocks

India responded with 'export diversification measures, bilateral trade agreements (the latest one being the India-UK FTA), manufacturing policies, such as the Production Linked Incentive schemes and PPPs.

Partnerships such as the India-UAE CEPA and negotiations with the European Union are reducing dependency on single markets. The PLI schemes in electronics, semiconductors, pharmaceuticals and renewable energy are helping India substitute critical imports and position India as a hub for the resilient supply chains.

Initiatives such as PMGS and NLP have set an example



for the world. They help reduce dependence on some markets and boost India's self-reliance in sectors, such as electronics, semiconductors and defence, pharma and agriculture. Investments in SEZs, road and rail freight corridors, MMLPs, NHs and airports with advanced cargo terminals have contributed to the overall economic growth.

When the wars and geopolitical tensions reshaped the global supply chains, India stayed resilient through initiatives such as Make in India, Atmanirbhar Bharat, PMGS and NLP. MNCs, which are adopting the China+1 strategy, are looking at India as an emerging preferred alternative manufacturing hub.

Strategic investments in industrial corridors, smart coordination and port modernisation strengthen its role in the global trade. Slowdown in major economies in EU and the Middle East has created uncertainty, but India's global and domestic growth has remained strong. Investments in infrastructure and

latest technologies are driving inclusive growth. India is building human capital that can withstand external shocks by focusing on upskilling, expanding healthcare through Ayushman Bharat and mobilising rural entrepreneurship.

The opportunity to scale cargo networks in emerging cities is drawing attention from foreign as well as domestic investors

Also, India's role in global climate commitments, leadership in the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and push for green hydrogen highlights its commitment for sustainable and resilient development.

BOTTLENECKS

Despite being on the fast-track, the sector continues to face challenges, which hit efficiency and global competitiveness. The major hurdle is high logistics costs — currently estimated between 13 and 14 per cent of GDP compared to 8–9 per cent in developed nations. Infra, skill gaps and congestion at airports and ports (especially during peak season) slows down tech adoption.



The sector is highly fragmented — with unorganised players running the show, who lack scale and tech adoption. Most MSMEs are lagging in adopting AI, IoT and automation due to high operating costs. Regulatory complexities, delays in customs and bottlenecks in lastmile delivery in urban areas and sustainability add more pressure. Global disruptions, such as container shortages, fluctuating freight rates and geopolitical tensions, make the sector vulnerable to external shocks. Addressing these bottlenecks is critical for India's ambition to emerge as a logistics powerhouse and achieve the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

OUTLOOK

Though the path to Viksit Bharat is full of international headwinds, India's strategy is one of adaptation and opportunity. By diversifying trade, investing in resilient infra, upskilling, embracing digital governance and leading on sustainability, India is turning disruptions into stepping



stones. If one were to look at the past few years, global shocks have not derailed India's journey — they have only strengthened it. By balancing growth with inclusion, resilience with reform and ambition with sustainability, India

is steadily moving toward its goal — to stand not just as the world's largest democracy, but as a fully developed and self-reliant Viksit Bharat by 2047. One thing is plain: India has a clear strategy — leveraging its demographic dividend,

resilient economy and policy-driven reforms to march steadily on the path of 2047.

talks with industry leaders about the progress and challenges in the air cargo and logistics sector.

Future ready cargo ecosystem crucial

As India charts its course towards Viksit Bharat 2047 vision and the projected US\$ 7 trillion economy by 2030, creating a futureready cargo and logistics ecosystem will be critical to power this transformation. Initiatives such as NLP and PMGS for multimodal connectivity are laying the foundation for seamless integration across modes, transport enhancing efficiency and reducing logistics costs. The sector must embrace digitalisation to foster PPPs, invest in green logistics. En-



Ketan Kulkarni MD & CEO Allcargo GATI & GESCPL

The sector must embrace digitalisation to foster PPPs, invest in green logistics

hanced infra, supported by unified digital platforms and advanced technologies, can unlock transparency."

Need for logistics parks, digital infrastructure

For developing next gen cargo infrastructure, though NLP and PMGS offer the right frameworks, the real impact will come from better coordination across ministries and faster approvals for private investments. We need modern PPP models that address financing risks, promote codevelopment of logistics parks, inland terminals and digiinfrastructure. Incentivising tainability and automation will align us with global supply chain standards. Legacy systems, reg-



ulatory overlaps and inconsistent digital adoption continue to progress slowly. First and last-mile integration is also patchy."

Next leap needs multimodal integration

Through initiatives, such as Bharatmala, Sagarmala, PMGS and DFCs, India has laid the foundation. The next leap requires tighter multimodal integration, faster digital interoperability and real-time visibility. PPPs will be key in upgrading logistics parks, standardising service quality and enabling seamless intermodal transfers. Single-window clearances, PPP investments and ULIP can accelerate progress. Efficiency will get a boost through incentives for sustainable logistics,



Anish Kumar Jha MD, Kuehne+Nagel, India, Sri Lanka & the Maldives

Efficiency will get a boost through incentives for sustainable logistics, EVs

EVs and upskilling. Freight corridors and port-led growth have enhanced cargo flow, laying a foundation for efficient logistics."

PPPs crucial to upgrade airports & ports

To develop cargo infra for Viksit Bharat 2047, govt policies must enable seamless multimodal transport, logistics digitisation and green incentives. PPPs are key to upgrading airports, seaports and logistics hubs. Digital platforms, such as ULIP can unify operations under one system. Streamlined land acquisiautomated tion. customs and singlewindow clearances and help build a faster, more sustainable logistics ecosystem in the future. Challenges include outdated infra, fragmented regulations



S Hari CEO OneAvia Services

PPPs are important to upgrade airports, seaports and logistics hubs

and weak first-and last-mile connectivity. Unlocking multimodal potential requires seamless integration, among others."



Training of workforce to optimise operations

L To step towards developing a next gen cargo infra, there is a need for initiatives regarding integrated logistics systems. These include investing in training and upskilling of logistics workforce for optimising ops, adopting new tech, apart from attracting private investments and PPPs as these can play a vital role in mobilising private capital for ports, highways and logistics parks. Private partners bring innovative tech and know-how to improve project design and operational modalities. The govt



Sunil Kohli MD Rahat Cargo

Private partners bring innovative tech & knowledge to improve project design

has initiated progressive schemes such as Sagarmala, Bharatmala and UDAN to boost regional connectivity."

Firms should adopt technology to survive

The ongoing supply chain shocks, geopolitical tensions and tariff escalations have pushed the world toward regionalisation. India's Vocal for Local and Make India initiatives are levers for resilience. Indian manufacturers and exporters will need to adapt to improve product quality, scale up infra and embrace tech. This shift is less about self-reliance in isolation and more about strengthening India's role as a dependable node in the global value chain. From



Amit Maheshwari Founder & CEO Softlink Global

Manufacturers must improve product quality and scale up infrastructure to boost efficiency

factory automation to digital logistics platforms that unify documentation and tech-led efficiency will define who thrives in the new era."

US tariffs to hit jewellery, precious stones' exports

The impact will be on jewellery and precious stones as they come under segment. luxurv Pharma and electronics are exempt from the US tariffs. This was evident in the PM's pitch at Surat, which is the top exporter to USA. The major export sectors from India to the America are jewellery, precious stones, pharma and electronics. The Vocal for Local pitch will impact FMCG, QSR, liquor, dairy and cosmetics wherein the USA firms have a major market share in India. The Vocal for



Praveen Manoharran MD & CEO, Breezonica Logistics & Warehousing LLP

The Vocal for Local pitch will impact FMCG, QSR, liquor, dairy and cosmetics

Local pitch will exert pressure on the US companies in the above segments. Tariffs will also pressurise agri exports."

Govt slogans are engines of resilience, growth

In a world of inreasing tariffs, trade wars, geopolitical conflicts and fragile supply chain, India's Vocal for Local and Make in India initiatives have become more than policy slogans. They are engines of resilience and growth. India's entrepreneurial spirit offers an edge — ability to turn challenges into opportunity. new era of manufacturing is not about making in India, but about making Indian goods world class. The message is loud and clear: The future of Inmanufactur-



Balagopal Balachandran National Head Air Freight, FEI Cargo

The country's entrepreneurial spirit has the ability to turn challenges into opportunity

ing is not just about making in India, it is about making in India for India and the world."

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Govt-industry collab to ensure policy stability

The industry's ability to cope with this shift will hinge on agility, collaboration and investment in capacity. With tariff wars and supply chain disruptions pushing the costs up and creating uncertainty - Vocal for Local and Make in India offer a challenge and an opportunity. Manufacturers and cargo agents will need to re-engineer sourcing strategies, supply diversify chains and scale up domestic manufacturing to reduce import dependence. While short-term pain is inevitable



CK Govil President ACAAI

Diversify supply chains & scale up domestic manufacturing to reduce import dependency

due to higher costs and adaptation time in medium to long-term, the shift could fortify India's manufacturing ecosystem, boost exports and create trade pathways."

Increased cargo flow to benefit logistics

W Vocal for Local and Make in India initiatives amid global disruptions and tariff wars are set to reshape trade movement and supply chains. As the manufacturing sector shifts domestically, demand for integrated logiswarehousing tics. and multimodal connectivity surge forward. Forwarders will adapt strengthening domestic supplier networks, investing in technology for real-time visibility and enhancing cold chain and valueadded services. While infra gaps and



Vaibhav Vohra Managing Director Continental Carriers

Forwarders to adapt by strengthening domestic supplier networks

transition costs continue to be constraints, the logistics industry can capitalise on increased cargo movement, regional manufacturing hubs and export opportunities."

Regulatory mess complicates customs

Modernising multimodal gistics for futurereadiness faces many challenges, infra fragmentation remains a barrier: ports, rail, road and air systems are developed in silos, physical lacking and digital integration. Data interoperability is limited, different operators proprietary platforms, preventing real-time cargo visibility across modes. Regulatory misalignment across regions complicates customs, safety standards and crossborder flows. Sustainability pressures



Dilip SahuDirector, EPS Worldwide
Integrated Logistics

Sustainability pressures demand adoption of electric trucks, green fuel

demand adoption of electric trucks, green fuel and low emission infra, but high cost and limited charging/refuelling networks slow down progress."

Policies strengthen multimodal integration

The next gen cargo ecosystem requires policies that strengthen multimodal integration, promote digital adoption and speed infrastructure through public-private partnerships. Incentives for green logistics, unified platforms digital for cargo visibility and investment in warehousing and last-mile connectivity will be crucial. PMGS is a promising step, but collaboration between policymakers and industry players essential. The challenges lie in fragmented infrastructure, lack of



Mahendra Shah CMD V Trans

Incentives for green logistics, unified digital platforms for cargo visibility are crucial

seamless digital interoperability and need for skill development."



Limited willingness to pay for innovation

Mespite progress, India's multimodal logistics faces gaps in first- and last-mile connectivity, fragmented infra and regulatory environments across states. Tech adoption, workforce readiness and sustainability compliance remain critical, requiring coordinated action. Another challenge is the limited willingness to pay for while innovation, modern solutions are available, many stakeholders tinue to default to legacy methods under the perception that they are cheap-



Kamanathan Kajamar CEO AISATS

Tech adoption, workforce readiness and sustainability compliance remain critical

er. This disorganised sector slows down progress and stresses commercial models aligned with future-ready operations."





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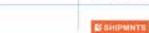


















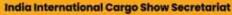














Can India outpace its rivals in air cargo & logistics?

Even as India aspires to become a global air cargo and logistics leader, the country is facing competition from China, Thailand, Vietnam and Singapore, which are established regional powerhouses. For this, India has to modernise infrastructure, reduce costs and enhance efficiency to match global benchmarks.



ritika Arora Bhola

ow that India is diversifying its markets and relying on other trade routes for exports and imports, following the imposition of 50 per cent US tariffs, stakeholders are gearing up to compete with South Asian nations, such as Vietnam, Thailand, Singapore and China, which are established players. As these nations seek to become global trade and logistics hubs, the million-dollar

question is — can India match up to these competitors?

India has inherent advantages. Its geographical position, which puts the country at the centre of global cargo flows — provides access to eastbound and westbound trade routes. Coupled with a large domestic consumer base, a fast-growing manufacturing sector driven by Make in India, Production Linked Incentive schemes and increasing ecommerce penetration, India

has the volumes to strengthen its logistics ecosystem.

The government's initiatives such as the PM Gati Shakti (PMGS), Dedicated Freight Corridors (DFCs), MMLPs, SEZ, Bharatmala, Sagarmala and the National Logistics Policy (NLP) are driving infrastructural modernisation, multimodal connectivity and cost efficiency.

India faces stiff competition from its regional counterparts. China dominates global supply chains with its well-integrated logistics infrastructure, efficient ports and advanced air cargo hubs, such as Shanghai. Hong Kong, while Thailand and Vietnam, leveraging their manufacturing bases in electronics and perishables, have scaled up logistics services and offer faster, cost-efficient solutions. Singapore continues to be a benchmark for world-class connectivity, technology adoption and efficiency.

India is still on its way to reaching a position that could rival its competition. With electronics and pharma exports increasing, manufacturing activities under the Make in India initiative on the rise and FDIs and trust increasing, India is likely to set a benchmark globally in the coming years.

India's challenges lie in high logistics costs, currently between 13 and 14 per cent of GDP compared to 8–10 per cent in advanced economies, along with fragmented supply chains, limited cold chain capacity and procedural inefficiencies. With PMGS and NLP, logistics cost is likely to reduce to single digits in the coming months.

Highlights

- With companies seeking China+1 strategy, India to attract investments in manufacturing and supply chains
- Growth in pharma, auto, electronics and perishables will fuel air cargo volumes

While major airports — Delhi, Mumbai and Hyderabad — are investing in cargo infra, India needs deeper digital integration, faster customs processes and improved last-mile connectivity to match global standards.

With global companies seeking China+1 strategies, India stands to attract investments in manufacturing and supply chains. Growth in pharmaceuticals, automotive, electronics and perisha-

India is well-positioned to compete, but must accelerate reforms and invest in technology, infrastructure and skill development

bles will fuel volumes, while digitisation, sustainability measures and private sector participation can improve competitiveness.

In conclusion, the country is well-positioned to compete, but must accelerate reforms and invest in technology, infrastructure and skill development. While China, Thailand and others have cemented their place in the trade, India's scale, demand base and initiatives give it the potential to emerge as a leading air cargo and logistics powerhouse in the coming decade.

experts to discuss how attractive India's cargo and logistics market is, compared to Southeast Asian competitors, and if India is ready to become a global logistics hub.

- India must develop worldclass logistics zones near ports, enable faster clearances through digitisation
- Encourage PPPs and offer competitive transshipment tariffs





India offers lower costs, larger domestic market

Compared to Southeast Asia, India offers a larger domestic market and lower labour costs. Its long-term potential remains strong as global supply chains diversify under the China+1 strategy, making India a favourable logistics hub with room for improvement. To become a global transshipment hub, India must invest in port infra, logistics efficiency and regulatory reforms. India should focus on creating SEZs to attract global manufacturers and logistics firms. Partnerships with international



Keku Bomi Gazder CEO & MD Aviapro Logistic Services

India must focus on creating SEZs to attract global manufacturers

shipping lines and integration with trade routes can boost volumes."



Upcoming ports show India's infra capability

If we compare India with Southeast Asian nations, we offer a sizeable unified market, growing manufacturing under the Make in India and PLI schemes and rising consumption. These factors position India as a logistics hub for domestic needs and a gateway for global trade, making it a long-term choice for global supply chain diversification. With improved port infra and enhanced shipping link, India is poised to emerge as a global transshipment hub. It is prudent for India to



Prediman Koul CEO Jeena & Company

India must be a logistics hub for domestic needs and a gateway for global trade

develop logistics zones near ports, enable faster clearances, encourage PPPs and offer competitive transshipment tariffs."

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DFCs are an effort to increase rail freight

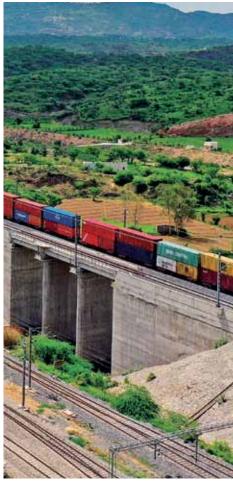
Cargo volumes have rebounded so much that the air cargo market is now being seen as one of the most lucrative bets for freighter operators and other supply chain stakeholders across the world. In 2023-24, India saw a 7 per cent YoY rise in volumes handled by airports, while global loads spiked by 10 per cent. India is setting up expressways and highways to cut transport time drastically and improve connectivity ports and airports. The DFCs are an effort to increase the share of rail freight and leverage the



Afzal Malbarwala MD Galaxy Freight

India is setting up expressways and highways to cut transport time drastically

third largest rail network in the world to lower logistics cost to single digits."



India must simplify customs procedures

India may have joined the race late, but it has the scale, demographic dividend and domestic demand many of its peers lack. With sustained focus. coherent policy implementation and PPPs, India could emerge as a global logistics hub. To become a global transshipment hub – a geographical location, world-class physical infra and facilitative regulatory framework are essential. With investment in ports, DFCs, MMLPs and improved connectivity, I don't see what can stop India from



President
AMTOI

With coherent policies and PPPs, India could emerge as a global logistics hub

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Allcargo unveils Grade A warehouse in Karnataka

The tech-enabled facility strengthens supply chain agility and customer responsiveness in the region. With advanced infra and cargo processing capacity, the warehouse reflects our commitment to deliver customised solutions, says **Ketan Kulkarni**, **MD & CEO**, **Allcargo GATI & GESCPL**.



A llcargo Logistics, part of Allcargo Group, has launched Grade A built-to-suit (BTS) warehousing facility for a Swedish player at Alur, Nelamangala near Bengaluru under the Allcargo Supply Chain (ASCPL). Spread over 1.5 lakh sqft, the technology-enabled BTS facility will manage handling, storage and distribution of the firm's electrical components.

The Alur warehouse will be the Swedish major's largest facility in the country and will serve as a consolidated distribution centre for its electrical component division.

Its location offers superior shipment connectivity, enhancing operational efficiency. The warehouse is equipped with multi-tier shelving rack, heavy duty racking with prod-



Ketan Kulkarni MD & CEO Allcargo GATI & GESCPL

uct suitable elevation, on-floor storage location, maximising storage capacity. Reach truck, VRC, Spiral Conveyor, Double Deep Battery-Operated Pallet Truck (BOPT) design and Customise Single Fork HPT ensure swift and smooth goods movement and handling.

The warehouse leverages SAP System and has deployed

enhanced cargo processing, the facility reflects our promise to deliver solutions to meet clients' needs."

advanced scanning systems ensuring better functional efficiency. In addition, the warehouse complies with all the safety guidelines in terms of firefighting equipment, internal and external hydrant lines and internal sprinkler system. The structure is also energy efficient with abundant natural light.

"This technology-enabled facility strengthens supply chain agility and customer responsiveness in the region. With advanced infrastructure

and enhanced cargo processing capacity, the warehouse reflects our commitment to delivering customised, techdriven warehousing solutions that meet the unique needs of our clients," said Ketan Kulkarni, MD, Allcargo Supply Chain (ASCPL).



Advertorial

Busting myths and making sustainability a reality

Our systems help logistics hubs respond to uncertainties such as tariff changes or disruptions, allowing them to make real-time decisions. These capabilities do not serve long-term sustainability goals, they influence immediate business continuity and resilience, says **Rahim Bhimani**, **SVP**, **Air Cargo Practice**, **Kale Logistics Solutions**.

yths are more common than facts. Many industry stakeholders still believe that going green is expensive and complex, a sentiment especially prevalent in developing economies. We often encounter such misconceptions across global markets, but the reality is far more practical, achievable and even profitable.

In developed nations, strong legislation and heightened awareness drive a culture of sustainability. These markets treat green logistics not just as an option, but as a regulatory requirement. In contrast, many developing and third-world countries still view sustainability as a luxury, disconnected from their core business goals of growth and cost efficiency.

There is a belief that green tech means burning cash and that only wealthy nations can afford it. But what many do not realise is that sustainability and efficiency can go hand in hand and, in many cases, they do. There is also the myth that sustainability and performance



Rahim Bhimani Senior Vice President, Air Cargo Practice, Kale Logistics Solutions

cannot go hand in hand. Kale's Cargo Community Platforms deployed at 150 airports and ports globally have proven the exactly the opposite. These systems not only ensure compliance with environmental regulations but also drastically enhance operational efficiency. In fact, airports using Kale's solutions have eliminated 10 million paper copies annually, reducing waste and streamlining workflows.

While airports in North America deploy Kale solutions to meet sustainability goals, those in the APAC region adopt them to improve operational growth. Regardless of their motivation, stakeholders across geographies agree on one point — Kale's platform is a one-stop solution for environmental and business needs.

Another myth we often hear is 'green solutions are a future luxury, not a current necessity.' Kale debunks this by offering practical, realtime benefits through predictive and analytical tools. Kale's systems help logistics hubs respond to uncertainties such as tariff changes or supply chain disruptions, allowing for well-informed, real-time decisions. These capabilities don't just serve long-term sustainability goals they directly influence immediate business continuity and resilience.

There is the widely held belief that 'tech alone cannot solve real sustainability challenges'. While tech is not a magic wand, it is a powerful enabler. One of the most common hurdles businesses face is resistance to change. To tackle this, Kale dosen't just deploy platforms, but works closely with all stakeholders at 150 global locations, constantly updating and educating them about system upgrades and best practices. This consistent engagement builds confidence, boosts adoption and paves the way for measurable environmental and operational gains.

And then there is the myth that 'sustainable change takes years to show results'. We have seen quite the opposite. In one North American airport us-

CL Airports using Kale solutions have eliminated 10 mn paper copies annually, reducing waste and streamlining workflows."

ing our platform, stakeholders were able to save 16,000 gallons of fuel in just three quarters, a direct, short-term impact. At CSMIA, cargo processing time fell by 60 per cent and cargo dwell time reduced. These changes allowed the airport to handle higher cargo volumes without physical expansion, a win for both business and the environment.

We believe the future of logistics is not just digital, it is green, efficient and inclusive. By debunking long-standing myths and showcasing tangible success stories, we are helping ports, airports and logistics stakeholders realise that sustainability is not a costly dream. It is a practical, profitable reality, here and now.



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CJ Logistics eyes growth in India's logistics ecosystem

India represents immense opportunity through its expanding infrastructure and agile customer base. We are committed to empowering our teams, building meaningful partnerships and reflecting global best practices and local relevance, says **Jonathan Song**, **CEO**, **Global Business Division**, **CJ Logistics**.



o focus on India's rapidly growing logistics sector, supported by infrastructure modernisation and a multimodal ecosystem, Jonathan Song, CEO, Global Business Division, CJ Logistics, visited India from 29 to 31 July, marking a milestone in the Group's global engagement strategy. The visit under-

scored the importance of the Indian market in CJ Logistics' global network and reaffirmed its commitment to long-term collaboration through its subsidiary, CJ Darcl Logistics Ltd. (CJ Darcl).

During his three-day visit, Song held meetings with the CJ Darcl management team and interacted with customers to understand evolving logistics needs, explore areas of synergy and strengthen business alignment across the market. India's logistics sector, supported by infra modernisation and a multimodal ecosystem, continues to be a key focus area in CJ Logistics' global business approach.

Song's engagements reflected the Group's emphasis on enabling technology-led service delivery, strengthening 4PL capabilities and enhancing omnichannel customer experience in line with its global standards. As part of CJ Logistics' Technology, Engineering, Systems & Solutions (TES) framework, the company continues to support operational excellence and systems integration across core markets.

In India, this translates into collaborative initiatives through digitalisation, customer-centric execution and process innoWe are committed to empower our teams to build meaningful partnerships and drive solutions that reflect global best practices and local relevance

vation. "India represents immense opportunity through its expanding infrastructure and digitally agile customer base. We are committed to empower our teams to build meaningful partnerships and drive solutions that reflect global best practices and local relevance," said Song. The visit aligns with CJ Logistics' broader international vision - leveraging its expansive network and logistics expertise to create integrated across geographies. 🖢







DELIVERING HEALTH, WORLDWIDE

KEY FEATURES



Integrated Cargo Terminal



Pharma Zone & Unbroken Cold Chain Facility



Road Feeder Services (RFS)



Cargo Satellite Building Offices & Warehouses



State of Art Cargo Handling Equipment



On-site Regulators



International Express & Courier Facilities



Exclusive Freighter Bays



Airport Free Trade Zone



Dedicated Pharma Zone Offering



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Temperature Controlled

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Global air cargo volumes witness 5% jump in July: Xeneta

With cargo capacity in July hiking by a lower level of 3% year-on-year, the robust over 5% rise in volume helped lift the dynamic load factor, which has returned to levels comparable with a year earlier. Presently, global air cargo is riding piggyback on the chaos being caused by the US tariffs: **Xeneta**

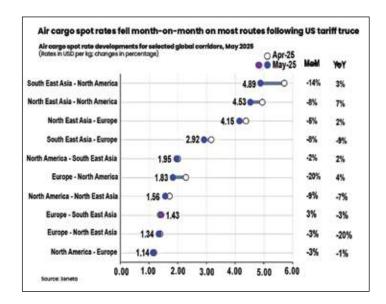


lobal air cargo volumes jumped by over 5 per cent year-on-year in July as more shippers opted for air freight to help circumvent US tariffs, according to the latest market analysis by Xeneta.

The lack of clarity continues to cast a grim shadow over air cargo trade flows. July saw an upturn in global air cargo demand

With continuing disruptions, market sentiment, however, remains subdued as tariff talks in Washington remain in flux. The lack of clarity continues to cast a grim shadow over air cargo trade flows. Contrary to the usual seasonal lull, July saw an upturn in global air cargo demand following a modest one per cent gain in June. This unexpected boost, bucking seasonal patterns, appears driven in part by tariff-related frontloading, mode shift and persistent uncertainty, prompting businesses to expedite shipments.

With cargo capacity in July increasing by a lower level of 3 per cent year-on-year, the robust over 5 per cent rise in volume helped lift the dynamic load factor, which has now returned to levels comparable with a year earlier (58 per cent) and recovering the 2 per cent decline recorded just a month ago. Dynamic load factor is



Xeneta's measurement of capacity utilisation based on volume and weight of cargo flown alongside available capacity. "As we said earlier in the year,

air cargo is piggybacking on the chaos being caused by US tariffs. The growth in July was a sign of the ways the firms are trying to circumvent the high-



er costs of tariffs," said Niall van de Wouw, Chief Airfreight Officer, Xeneta.

"What we are seeing currently is a mode shift, which is helping air freight in the short-term. Having goods in an ocean container for 30 days will feel like a long time for a lot of businesses right now. Businesses are getting creative to try to avoid or lessen the impact of tariffs. It is a game of 'cat and mouse' between the US administration and the companies," he added.

SPOT RATES FALL FOR THIRD MONTH

Despite firmer fundamentals, global air cargo spot rates declined for a third straight month in July, declining by 2 per cent year-on-year to US\$ 2.55 per kg. Yet the rate of decline has eased, thanks to the resurfacing demand-supply imbalance. A modest over 2 per cent month-onmonth uptick in July offered a glimmer of relief to airlines, although the mid-term trajectory remains muted.

The gap between seasonal rates (valid for over one month) and spot rates (valid for up to one month) has widened from 5 cents below spot rate in late May to more than



20 cents below by the end of July, indicating subdued midterm confidence.

While this was so, further complications loom. The USA is preparing to end the de minimis exemption for all countries by August end, a policy shift that could reshape small-parcel air trade. Since 2 May, the exemption has been removed for shipments from mainland China and Hong Kong, which account for an estimated two-thirds of all de minimis parcels entering the USA, as per US Customs and Border Protection. This has resulted in a reported minus 50 per cent drop in China's

low-value and e-commerce exports to the USA in June, based on the latest China Customs statistics.

The broader rollback will primarily affect Canada, the UK and Mexico — countries that together make up most of the remaining one-third of affected volume. Potential disruptions to the US postal services, governed by international treaties, could add yet another layer of complexity, as reciprocal measures from foreign postal authorities remain a distinct possibility.

While the lack of detail around US tariffs is 'creating

a headache for people, van de Wouw acknowledged, it is, once again, pushing up air freight volumes.

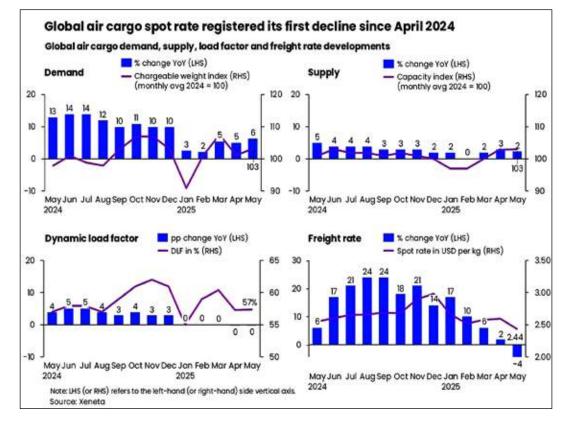
"Circumventing is about responding quicker and being prepared to pay a little bit more for air freight transpor-

Potential disruptions to the US postal services, governed by international treaties, could add yet another layer of complexity

tation because it is still better than paying a much higher tariff on goods," he said.

"When there is chaos in international trade, it often benefits air freight. Presently, we have it on an unprecedented scale, globally. There is lack of clarity, which is affecting a lot more trade lanes as companies are trying to reduce their financial risk due to export and import USA tariffs," he said.

"This continuing uncertainty is one of the few things that might protect demand in the coming months because hardly anything has been finalised in relation to tariffs. Businesses are seeing the news headlines and intentions but not the fine print. The market may yet feel the force of consumer sentiment amidst rising prices," he added.



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TIACA paves roadmap for e-commerce growth

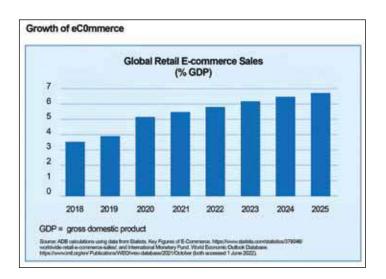
E-commerce is not a new cargo product — it is a shift in how the air logistics sector operates. The white paper on e-commerce provides policy recommendations, industry best practices and a roadmap to ensure that we as a global community are ready for the next phase of growth, says **Steven Polmans**, **Chair**, **TIACA**.



IACA has released its first-ever white paper titled, E-Commerce: Opportunities and Challenges, offering a global perspective on one of the fastest-growing and transformative forces in the air cargo industry. By the end of 2024, e-commerce accounted for around 20 per cent of global air cargo volumes, with forecasts predicting these volumes could double within

Process simplification and data harmonisation create interoperable systems to improve transparency and efficiency the next decade. This rapid growth, accelerated by the pandemic-driven shifts in consumer behaviour, has reshaped supply chains, created new business models and revealed gaps in regulation, standardisation and infrastructure. Developed by TIACA's multisector E-commerce Task Force - airlines, airports, ground handlers, technology providers, freight forwarders and industry analysts — the white paper examines the sector's pressing challenges and opportunities, from safety and customs management to harmonised data standards, sustainability and innovation.

"E-commerce is not just a new cargo product — it is a paradigm shift in how the air logistics sector operates. The white paper provides action-



able policy recommendations, industry best practices and a collaborative roadmap to ensure that, we, as a global community are ready for the next phase of growth," said Steven Polmans, Chair, TIACA.

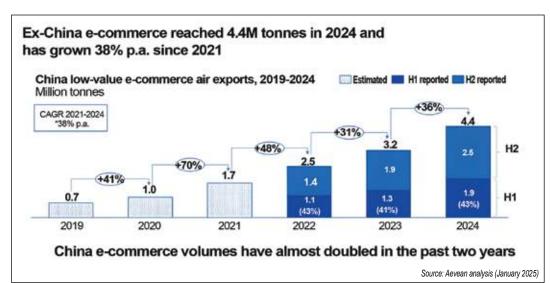
The report focuses on current trends, growth projections and trade lane shifts. Safety and security address lithium battery risks, cyberthreats and regulatory harmonisation. Customs and

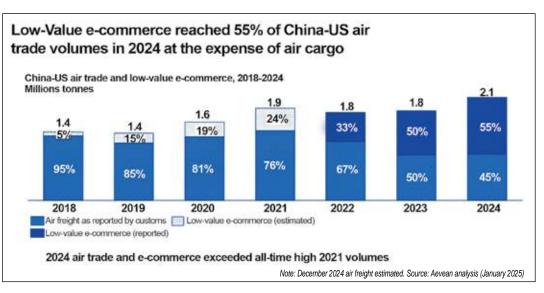


border management enable efficient clearance, while combating fraud and misdeclaration. Process simplification and data harmonisation create interoperable systems to improve transparency and efficiency.

Final-mile and reverse logistics — integrating new technologies and sustainable practices. Innovation and sustainability — leveraging AI, drones and green technologies to meet environmental targets.

"Our industry is at a crossroads. By embracing digitalisation, innovation and cross-





sector collaboration, we can transform e-commerce air logistics into a safer, greener and more efficient ecosystem," said Nikolai Schaffner, Swissport Co-Chair, E-Commerce Task Force, TIACA.

"This white paper is a step in helping our industry navigate the rise of e-commerce. Together, we are charting a path toward safer, smarter and more sustainable e-commerce air logistics that considers evolving regulations and consumer behaviour," said Glyn Hughes, DG, TIACA. The report is available to all stakeholders. TIACA has invited feedback to help shape ongoing work in this critical area.





Express logistics may rise to US\$ 22 bn by FY30

EICI's recent report projects the market will double by 2029–30. By FY25, the industry is likely to function as an enabler for e-commerce, MSMEs and cross-border trade. It identifies five priority areas for unlocking future growth — agility, adaptability, efficiency, customer-centricity and a policy and regulatory framework.



he Express Industry Council of India (EICI) unveiled its flagship report titled Express Industry in India 2025: Powering India's Economy, Connecting Businesses and Markets, commissioned by EICI with KPMG in India as its knowledge partner. Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways, launched the EICI report along with industry leaders and other stakeholders in New Delhi.

The report projects that the market will double to US\$ 18–22 bn by FY30. It will contribute to GST revenues of US\$ 1–1.5 bn



The study highlights the sector's expansion from US\$ 3 billion in FY17 to US\$ 9 billion in FY25, recording a CAGR of between 12 and 15 per cent. It projects that the market will double to anything between

US\$ 18–22 billion by FY30. By FY25, the industry may support close to 3 million jobs, contribute to GST revenues of US\$ 1–1.5 billion and customs revenues of US\$ 650 million, besides being an enabler for e-

commerce, MSMEs and crossborder trade.

The report stated that the industry has transformed from a logistics facilitator to an essential service provider,

Contd. on next page





MUMBAI TO TASHKENT

Aircraft type: A320

Days of Operations: 2, 5

DESTINATIONS

ALA, MSQ, BSZ, VKO, DME, IST, LED, GRD, DYD, TBS, SVX and Many More



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playing a vital role during the pandemic in supporting the world's largest vaccination drive and ensuring priority delivery of essential goods. High internet and smartphone penetration, exponential growth of e-commerce, the rise of MSME output and infrastructure expansion into tier II and III cities drove the post-pandemic growth.

Domestic express accounts for 70 per cent of the total market, valued between US\$ 6.3–6.5 billion, with the surface industry contributing the largest share. The international express segment, with a share of 30 per cent, handled 19.5 million shipments weighing around 152,300 tonnes

C Domestic express market contributes 70% — the largest share of the market — led by surface transport growth."

in FY24, posting an average growth rate of 18 per cent between FY21 and FY24. Growth in this segment is being fuelled by increased global appetite for Made in India products.

Commenting on the report, Vijay Kumar, CEO, EICI, said, "The industry has become a pillar of the Indian

economy, linking businesses and markets with speed and reliability. From supporting the largest vaccination drive to enabling e-commerce, MS-MEs and exports, the sector has shown agility, resilience and innovation."

He added, "Domestic express contributes 70 per cent — the largest share of the market — led by surface transport growth, while international express is expanding along with global demand for Made in India products."

Vijay Kumar said, "Our priority now is to enhance efficiency, deepen customer-centricity, adopt sustainable practices and leverage tech to serve an evolving market. With shifting consumer behavior, digital adoption and growing domestic and international deliveries, the sector will be central to achieving Viksit Bharat 2047 goals."

KEY TRENDS

- Consolidation: Firms are strengthening efficiency and market reach through mergers, acquisitions and strategic partnerships
- Business models: The sector is developing customised solutions to meet the growing demands of e-commerce and quick commerce
- Digital transformation: Players are deploying blockchain, AI, ML and automation to improve speed of delivery and customer experience
- Sustainability: Industry leaders are committing to net zero targets and adopting greener operational practices to address environmental and social expectations

The report identifies five priority areas for unlocking future growth. These are agility and adaptability, efficiency improvements, customer-centricity, a sustainable operating outlook and a policy and regulatory framework. It calls for targeted policy measures, infra expansion and tech adoption, supported by PMGS, NLP and Bharatmala Pariyojana.





Outer Dimension

19X19X30

23X23X37

28X28X39

28X28X39

38X38X45

47X47X44

62X42X53

Mass & Contents

4 KGS

7 KGS

9 KGS

11 KGS

25 KGS

35 KGS

55 KGS

Product

4GV X4

4GV X7

4GV X9

4GV X11

4GV X25

4GV X35

4GV X55





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Hike in engineering exports in July 2025 Trade: Export

Sl. No.	Commodities		Values in Million USD				% Change	
		JULY'24	APR'24-	JULY'25	APR'25-	JULY'25	APR'25-	
1	т.,	70.50	JULY'24	04.60	JULY'25	10.07	JULY'25	
1	Tea	79.59	266.97	94.69	313.55	18.97	17.45	
2	Coffee	104.05	623.85	174.24	762.31	67.46	22.20	
3	Rice	830.42	3638.68	921.43	3828.85	10.96	5.23	
4	Other cereals	12.20	72.47	20.97	81.05	71.97	11.84	
5	Tobacco	146.84	573.70	153.46	662.65	4.51	15.50	
6	Spices	334.13	1423.02	347.52	1501.56	4.01	5.52	
7	Cashew	19.97	88.60	22.16	83.73	10.96	-5.50	
8	Oil meals	132.23	462.92	85.40	375.59	-35.42	-18.86	
9	Oil seeds	123.10	455.32	151.02	457.03	22.68	0.38	
10	Fruits & vegetables	278.10	1121.61	296.41	1248.65	6.58	11.33	
11	Cereal preparations & miscellaneous processed items	246.37	1010.36	282.06	1080.89	14.49	6.98	
12	Marine products	571.98	2200.85	652.18	2597.88	14.02	18.04	
13	Meat, dairy & poultry products	368.64	1379.94	483.61	1671.05	31.19	21.10	
14	Iron ore	234.51	895.24	86.83	504.42	-62.97	-43.66	
15	Mica, coal & other ores, minerals, including processed minerals	360.67	1514.45	458.44	1815.21	27.11	19.86	
16	Leather & leather products	415.16	1468.74	447.49	1535.52	7.79	4.55	
17	Ceramic products & glassware	317.06	1339.68	355.96	1386.94	12.27	3.53	
18	Gems & jewellery	1853.18	9117.83	2389.60	9053.79	28.95	-0.70	
19	Drugs & pharmaceuticals	2334.14	9537.03	2662.24	10245.93	14.06	7.43	
20	Organic & inorganic chemicals	2301.55	9403.37	2467.01	9470.04	7.19	0.71	
21	Engineering goods	9166.73	37095.35	10427.22	39333.43	13.75	6.03	
22	Electronic goods	2812.24	11246.14	3765.29	16169.35	33.89	43.78	
23	Cotton yarn/fabs./made-ups, handloom products etc.	970.50	3887.15	1020.72	3880.64	5.18	-0.17	
24	Man-made yarn/fabs./made-ups e tc.	405.62	1571.04	422.04	1588.84	4.05	1.13	
25	RMG of all textiles	1277.99	5127.70	1338.65	5531.19	4.75	7.87	
26	Jute mfg, including floor covering	25.62	108.92	32.37	126.11	26.34	15.78	
27	Carpet	123.13	486.49	133.04	503.88	8.05	3.57	
28	Handicrafts, excl. handmade carpet	139.41	546.91	153.36	551.96	10.00	0.92	
29	Petroleum products	5791.93	26425.70	4341.27	21749.19	-25.05	-17.70	
30	Plastic & linoleum	744.84	2867.07	777.52	2941.57	4.39	2.60	
	Sub-Total	32521.90	135957.12	34964.20	141052.81	7.51	3.75	
	GRAND TOTAL	34707.19	144764.62	37237.78	149204.92	7.29	3.07	

Note 1: Exports include Re-Exports.

Note 2: The figures for JULY 2025 are provisional. Note 3: Grand total is inclusive of component 'Other

(Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India)

Petroleum imports grew in July 2025

Trade: Import

Sl. No.	Commodities	Values in Million USD				% Change	
		JULY'24	APR'24- JULY'24	JULY'25	APR'25- JULY'25	JULY'25	APR'25- JULY'25
1	Cotton raw & waste	86.29	238.30	120.31	383.22	39.42	60.82
2	Vegetable oil	1868.66	6083.87	1934.90	6215.85	3.54	2.17
3	Pulses	293.28	1441.86	141.90	726.25	-51.62	-49.63
4	Fruits & vegetables	218.43	938.98	281.82	1078.05	29.02	14.81
5	Pulp and waste paper	152.19	645.09	193.41	676.79	27.09	4.91
6	Textile yarn fabric, made-up articles	208.48	765.50	233.21	853.08	11.86	11.44
7	Fertilisers, crude & manufactured	683.52	2964.25	1593.11	3693.08	133.07	24.59
8	Sulphur & unroasted iron pyrites	21.42	54.01	112.74	237.94	426.23	340.50
9	Metaliferrous ores & other minerals	837.35	3275.97	1187.51	4235.64	41.82	29.29
10	Coal, coke & briquettes, etc.	2986.61	12318.41	2361.40	10110.40	-20.93	-17.92
11	Petroleum, crude & products	14493.96	66019.03	15575.28	64833.26	7.46	-1.80
12	Wood & wood products	566.55	2122.68	586.42	2213.77	3.51	4.29
13	Leather & leather products	151.14	371.92	89.02	299.36	-41.10	-19.51
14	Organic & inorganic chemicals	2519.41	9745.18	2532.11	9777.11	0.50	0.33
15	Dyeing/tanning/colouring materials	397.22	1419.17	406.87	1422.10	2.43	0.21
16	Artificial resins, plastic materials, etc.	2045.46	7544.24	2055.16	7836.16	0.47	3.87
17	Chemical material & products	987.87	3810.57	1007.83	7837.23	2.02	105.67
18	Newsprint	47.63	163.07	35.37	108.06	-25.73	-33.74
19	Pearls, precious & semi-precious stones	1355.06	6732.35	1742.86	6453.29	28.62	-4.15
20	Iron & steel	1938.59	7008.11	1997.76	7257.63	3.05	3.56
21	Non-ferrous metals	2234.03	8396.73	2445.56	9276.66	9.47	10.48
22	Machine tools	468.21	1760.98	572.93	2261.79	22.37	28.44
23	Machinery, electrical & non-electrical	4470.13	16486.25	5363.24	19470.76	19.98	18.10
24	Transport equipment	2737.99	11242.62	2801.98	9776.56	2.34	-13.04
25	Project goods	16.34	254.63	32.38	411.71	98.25	61.69
26	Professional instrument, optical goods, among others	744.94	2681.90	820.81	3032.44	10.18	13.07
27	Electronic goods	8723.00	30600.07	9837.39	36596.34	12.78	19.60
28	Medicinal & pharmaceutical products	750.97	2905.92	850.74	3095.53	13.28	6.52
29	Gold	3491.20	11838.24	3973.92	11459.78	13.83	-3.20
30	Silver	94.38	396.32	506.48	1460.66	436.64	268.56
	Sub-Total	55590.31	220226.21	61394.37	233090.53	10.44	5.84
	GRAND TOTAL	59475.03	231593.95	64587.02	244008.71	8.60	5.36

Note 1: Imports include Re-Imports. Note 2: The figures for JULY 2025 are provisional.

Note 3: Grand total is inclusive of component 'Other'.

(Source: Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India)

EICI launches report on sector to drive growth & efficiency

The Express Industry Council of India (EICI) recently prepared a comprehensive report on the express cargo sector aimed at driving growth and enhancing efficiency. Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways was the Chief Guest and he launched the report.







A pact to bridge skill gap of women in logistics industry

Softlink Academy, EXIM Management Services and SNDT Women's College partner to reconcile disparities in skills in India's Export-Import (EXIM) and logistics sector, particularly for women. The workforce and academics will help create a skilled workforce, says **Amit Maheshwari**, **Founder & CEO**, **Softlink Global**.



Softlink Academy has signed a tripartite agreement with EXIM Management Services and SNDT Women's College to bridge the skill gap in India's Export-Import (EXIM) and logistics sector, particularly for women. The pact enables a commercial collaboration that trains and empowers students — especially women — in EXIM logistics through certified programmes, digital tools and real-world exposure.

The pact enables a commercial collab that trains and empowers students, especially women, in EXIM logistics

"Knowledge is the foundation of progress, but when combined with practical experience and digital tools, it becomes a powerful force for transformation. Through Softlink Academy, we are committed to nurturing talent that can shape the future of EXIM — not just by understanding the trade, but by leading it," said Amit Maheshwari, Founder & CEO, Softlink Global.

THE BENEFITS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Real-time industry exposure: Students get trained on Logi-Sys, an Intelligent Cloud ERP used by air cargo and logistics companies globally
- Practical and curriculum-integrated training: Focused on documentation, customs compliance, shipment lifecycle and digital operations

Industry mentorship and placement pathways: Students gain careerready insights and job opportunities within the logistics and EXIM sectors

By combining academic learning with real-world application, the programme will produce a skilled, confident and fu-

ture-ready workforce capable of meeting the demands of global trade. Historically, women have been underrepresented in EXIM and logistics due to limited access to specialised training and persistent gender biases. Partnering with the SNDT Women's College marks a purposeful step towards creating a more



Memorandum of Understanding signed between Softlink Global and EXIM Management Services

inclusive and diverse industry, he added.

HIGHLIGHTS

Students get trained on Logi-Sys, an Intelligent Cloud ERP, used in air cargo and logistics







Timeless Excellence







CII hosts LogisEast 2025 to boost air cargo & logistics

The LogisEast 2025 summit was recently held in Kolkata. Leading stakeholders from air cargo and logistics gathered to drive growth and collaboration in eastern India. Discussions underscored strengthening air cargo ops, leveraging tech, upgrading infra, while stressing the region's significance as a logistics hub.





he Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) recently hosted LogisEast 2025 – logistics summit and exhibition in Kolkata, bringing together key stakeholders from the logistics and air cargo ecosystem to chart the growth trajectory of eastern India.

Positioned as a strategic gateway to South and Southeast Asia, the region is fast emerging as a vital hub for trade and connectivity. The event highlighted opportunities to enhance infrastructure, streamline cargo operations and adopt digital solutions for efficiency. With participation from policymakers, industry leaders and service providers, the summit reinforced Kolkata's growing role as a logistics powerhouse driving regional and national economic growth.

The event, themed as, "Transforming Logistics and Warehousing in Eastern India: Bridging Gaps and Build-

The event highlighted opportunities to enhance infra, streamline cargo operations and adopt digital solutions for efficiency

ing the Future," aimed to strengthen Eastern India's logistics ecosystem, with West Bengal at the forefront. Snehasis Chakraborty, Minister, Department of Transport, Government of West Bengal graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

The panel discussions focused on wide range of topics such as advancing multimodal integration in eastern India, scaling storage and logistics networks through advanced warehousing, cold chain, CFS, ICDs and land ports, empowering MSMEs, accelerating Sagarmala's impact in the East and digitalisation, etc.

The event was held at a time when India's logistics industry, valued at over USD 320 billion, is undergoing rapid transformation through reforms like PM Gati Shakti, National Logistics Policy and continued investment in multimodal infrastructure.

CII also hosted a dedicated logistics and supply chain ex-

hibition as part of the event. The exhibition showcased a range of logistics solutions, offering attendees a valuable opportunity to engage with emerging innovations and industry capabilities. The event was supported by key industry associations such as NACFS, FFFAI and CCHAA.

Debashis Dutta, Chairman, CII West Bengal State Council & Director, BGS Group, said, "CII LogisEast 2025 is more than just a summit — it is a defining platform that positions West Bengal as the cluster hub for logistics and warehousing, driving the region's integration into India's growth story. Logistics is among the most important industries in the world. In India, it is the backbone of economic growth, employing over 22 million people. A 10 per cent













reduction in indirect logistics costs can increase exports by 5 - 8 per cent. The Government of India has recognised the potential of global trade, logistics and warehousing. Through initiatives like Bharat ULIP, it is creating a unified digital trade ecosystem aligned with global best practices. The pandemic tested us like never before, dis-

rupting labour, supply chains and operations – yet the resilience of our logistics sector has been remarkable."

Ashutosh Jaiswal, Chairman, CII (ER) Logistics Sub-Committee & CEO and Director, Century Infra Ltd & Century Ports Ltd, stated the event's theme explored

through the flagship conference, CII Logistics Colloquium, featuring national and international leaders driving innovation across the sector.

Sushil Dugar, Co-Chairman, CII (ER) Logistics Sub-Committee & COO, Balmer Lawrie & Co Ltd, added that this debut exhibition in Kolkata was designed to catalyse collaboration and highlighted innovations that will power the next phase of logistics growth in the region.

In conclusion, the CII LogisEast 2025 summit underlined the untapped potential of eastern India in transforming into a major logistics and air cargo hub. By fostering collaboration between government, industry and service providers, the event set the stage for futureready infrastructure, technology adoption and policy support. As discussions translate into actionable strategies, Kolkata is poised to strengthen its position as a critical gateway for trade, boosting efficiency, connectivity and competitiveness in India's logistics land-





Contd. on next page





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Om Logistics fortifies footprint in UP & MP with new infra push

Om Logistics has announced its expansion in Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh, strengthening its presence in central and northern India. The company is investing in modern logistics infrastructure, including advanced warehouses, transport facilities and technology-driven solutions to enhance efficiency and connectivity.



m Logistics Supply Chain, a wholly owned subsidiary company of Om Logistics Limited, has proposed an investment of 150 crore in Uttar Pradesh. Yogi Adityanath,

The company has also outlined a future investment plan of approximately 50 crore to expand its presence in the Madhya Pradesh region

Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh, highlighted this investment proposal during his recent visit to Unnao. This proposal aims to strengthen logistics, improve regional link



and enhance overall supply chain efficiency. In contribution to national development, it is likely to generate new employment opportunities, promote industrial development in the region and support businesses with faster, reliable logistics infrastructure. The firm will play a vital role in the development of Uttar Pradesh.

Additionally, Om Telecom Logistics (OTL), a group company of Om Logistics Limited, has also announced acquisition of land for establishing a new warehousing facility in the Industrial Area, Bagroda, under the Madhya Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation Limited woth ₹10 crore. The bhoomi poojan was held in the presence of

Mohan Yadav, Chief Minister, MP. Apart from fortifying infra, the facility may enhance supply chain capabilities, support regional industries and contribute to the sector's growth. The company has also outlined a future investment plan of approximately 50 crore to expand its presence in the Madhya Pradesh region.





AMONG SPEAKERS



Saudia Come

Vikram Vohra, Executive Director -Asia Pacific, Saudia Cargo



Thomas Kowitzki, VP, Global Head of Chinarail/Multimodal, DHL



Rizwan Siddigui, Country Manager Central Asia, IATA

















































HANS INFOMATIC

Parvinder Singh, Managing Director, Hans Infomatic



FedEx

Aida Issayeva, Head of Operations Department, FedEx Express KZ



BOLITAIR

Hamdi Osman, CEO & Founder, SolitAir Holding



MARKET OVERVIEW



FACTS

350+ attendees 50+ speakers 15+ showcase booths

- Exclusive facility tour of Tashkent's UzCargo terminal
- Keynote session: innovative startups transforming the air cargo industry

300,000 TONS

of air freight per year - Central Asian airports are now moving on the order

CARGO MARKET SIZE SHARE

(Central Asia, 2024, estimated)

Kyrgyzstan

Tajikistan, Turkmenistan

48.3% Kazakhstan 31,7% Uzbekistan 9,3% 10,7%

Sectional Overhead Doors: The smart way to secure your facility

The doors offer benefits for commercial buildings, making them an excellent choice for retail and industrial settings. They comprise multiple panels linked by hinges, allowing them to bend/slide and open vertically. When fully opened, the doors rest parallel to the ceiling, maximising space inside and outside the building.



Sectional Overhead Doors by Gandhi Automations are known for their reliability and durability. These are engineered to withstand rigorous use, while providing thermal insulation and soundproofing.

Customisable to fit a range of opening sizes and designed to meet high aesthetic standards, the doors enhance the appearance of a facility, while contributing to long-term cost savings. Their energy-efficient features make them a smart investment, ensuring operational effectiveness and financial benefits.

The range of Sectional Overhead Doors includes Porto and Max Vista. They are designed for industrial and commercial buildings and are available in multiple operational versions: Manual pushpull, electrically operated and chain-hoist — operated by pulling an endless chain.

This flexibility ensures their doors meet the diverse needs



of various applications. Both models are offered with different lifting systems tailored to the available overhead space. The sliding system options include normal lift, high lift, vertical lift, low headroom lift and inclined lift, providing optimal solutions for every setting.

Porto Sectional Overhead Doors seamlessly blend with any architectural style. They are easy to use, quiet and reliable. Built with pre-painted, galvanised steel and 40 mm thick sandwich panels, they ensure robust protection and energy efficiency

Max Vista Sectional Overhead Doors combine aluminium panels with special glazed panels enhancing natural light, grilled or meshed windows for a distinctive look. These sectional overhead doors provide ample natural light, creating a bright and pleasant work environment. They are visually appealing, suitable for commercial and industrial applications

KEY FEATURES

- Reliable and lownoise operation
- Extreme robustness for long-lasting use
- Design-oriented surfaces and optimal light solutions
- Minimal bulk, providing more usable space indoors and outdoors
- Easy and practical to open and operate
- Energy savings and enhanced comfort





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Unified digital platform: Need of the hour

The logistics sector today needs a digital backbone. A platform linking stakeholders across the value chain, aggregates services and data into one accessible ecosystem, enables seamless solution integration across hardware and software layers and allows smart orchestration of services for optimised performance.



n today's fast-evolving world, logistics is more than just the movement of goods - it's a critical enabler of economies, trade and day-to-day life. Yet, the sector continues to struggle with persistent challenges: fragmentation, inefficiency, high operational costs and growing environmental concerns. digital transformation sweeps across industries, logistics too must evolve not just with isolated tools, but with a unifying platform approach that is purposedriven as well as ecosystemenabled. Our belief is simple: when you bring together solutions with a shared purpose and orchestrate them through a common platform, you unlock the potential for sustainable, smart and scalable logistics.

A FRAGMENTED LANDSCAPE

Today's logistics ecosystem faces two main challenges:

Operational fragmentation

- across the supply chain, with solutions existing in silos, make coordination difficult and inefficient.
- The environmental impact is driven by excess fuel consumption, idle running, under-utilised capacity and un-optimised routes.
- Despite the proliferation of digital tools, these challenges persist because most solutions are designed for point use cases. They do not speak to each other, lack interoperability and fail to provide holistic visibility or impact.

THE PLATFORM APPROACH

This is where the Bosch Logistics Operating System steps in — a digital marketplace and orchestration platform designed to bring transparency, intelligence and sustainability to logistics.

L.OS is more than a marketplace; it serves as a digital operating system for logis-

With a single platform for document management, the customers can meet compliance and audit needs across the board

tics. It allows logistics service providers and fleet operators to discover, integrate and deploy the right digital solutions — quickly and seamlessly. L.OS empowers fleet operators and solution providers in logistics to reduce environmental impact.

This is done by optimising vehicle usage, fuel consumption and emissions, improve operational efficiency by integrating various services. These include routing, tracking, load optimisation and preventive maintenance, among others suitable for large enterprises and small fleet owners. The

services also support datadriven decisions for fleet managers and operations heads. L.OS platform is not just digitalisation, it is transformation.

In an ecosystem that is highly fragmented, platforms, such as L.OS act as an equaliser — giving MSMEs access to enterprise-grade solutions, without the need for custom development or large IT budgets. Bosch's platform thinking allows logistics companies to build end-to-end digital services without reinventing the wheel.

ENABLING LOGISTICS WITHOUT SIDE EFFECTS

Sustainability is no longer a choice — it is a business imperative. The logistics industry plays a central role in this journey. By adopting digital platforms, such as L.OS, companies can reduce their environmental footprint and improve operational agility, reduce costs and enhance service levels.



Santhosh Kumar Product Manager, Logistics Operating System, Bosch Mobility Platform and Solutions

(The views expressed are solely of the author.

The publication may or may not subscribe to the same)

50 CARGOtalk September 2025



A premier gathering for the air cargo and logistics community

Theme: "Connected yet constrained Transforming Trade amidst rising barriers"



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SHAPING THE FUTURE OF AIR CARGO & LOGISTICS

Kolkata's cargo fraternity kicks back at KCFT

The logistics fraternity came together for a celebration at Kolkata Cargo Football Tournament 2025 Season III, held on 9 August. The event saw participation from airlines, CTOs, forwarders and others. **Shantanu Murmu**, **Chairman**, **Eastern Region** - **ACAAI and Director-Globsync India**. organised the tourney.



CCUB driving excellence COLD CHAINS UNBROKENS In cold chain innovation



Cold Chain Unbroken 2025 (CCUB), which will be held later this month in Hyderabad, will highlight advancements in cold storage facilities, refrigerated transport, air cargo handling and digital monitoring systems that can reduce wastage, improve efficiency and strengthen trade competitiveness.



√he upcoming CCUB event in Hyderabad on 18 and 19 September is set to bring together stakeholders from logistics, supply chain and air cargo industries to deliberate on the future of temperature-controlled logistics in India.

With demand for reliable cold chain infrastructure rising across sectors such as pharmaceuticals, perishables, food processing and e-com-



merce, the event will serve as a platform for industry leaders, technology providers, policy makers and logistics professionals to exchange insights and explore new business opportunities. CCUB 2025 panel discussions, technical sessions and networking opportunities will cover topics such as sustainable cold chain models, integration of renewable energy, automation in warehousing and multimodal connectivity. The event will provide insights into govt initiatives and policy frameworks supporting cold chain development, with a focus on reducing logistics costs and positioning India as a reliable global supply chain partner. 🖠

Upcoming Events

SEPTEMBER

India-Oman Business Connect

The Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman in India. New Delhi

17-18 2025 International Supply Chain and Logistics Summit

Hotel Pride Plaza, New Delhi

18-19 Cold Chain Unbroken Conclave

Novotel, Hyderabad

18-20 REFCOLD India 2025

Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

23-24 The Central Asia Air Cargo

Summit 2025 Tashkent, Uzbekistan

OCTOBER

29-31 Air Cargo Southeast Asia 2025

Singapore

NOVEMBER

49th ACAAI Convention

Bali, Indonesia

14-17 Transport Vehicle Expo

HUDA Grounds, Gurugram

18-20 IndiAirport 2025

Yashobhoomi, New Delhi

and Logistics Show

20-22 India Warehousing

Mumbai

15-17 IATA World Cargo Symposium 2025

Dubai World Trade Centre,

DECEMBER

10-12 India International Cargo Show (IICS)

Mumbai

APRIL 2026

15-17 Transport and Infrastructure India **Summit and Exhibition**

> Bharat Mandapam. New Delhi

For more information contact: talk@ddppl.com

The dates shown on the annual event calendar are subject to change. Please refer to EventTalk in **Tilling** to track the changes in dates

Movements



GLOBAL AVIATION SERVICES India

Jalpa H Vithalani, who has led JTB Jupiter Express, has now been appointed as Group MD of The Global Group. Under her, the Group will harness its 50-year heritage in aviation and logistics, stressing on innovation, global networks and operational excellence.



GROUP CONCORDE

Praveen Narayanan has been appointed VP - Asia Pacific at Group Concorde India. He will focus on strengthening and expanding the company's overseas stations, while also assuming broader commercial responsibilities. He has been a cornerstone of the company's international expansion.



CARGO FLASH INFOTECH India

Saurabh Pathak has joined as COO at Cargo Flash Infotech, India. In his new role, he will drive operational excellence, global expansion and AI-led digital transformation to enhance productivity across the firm's portfolio. Earlier, he oversaw operations and quality systems at RED Express.



Ralph Van Eijk has joined as Chief Airline and Marketing Officer for Group Concorde. He will oversee and manage all Business Development and Group Marketing activities globally. Ralph brings proven leadership and strategic vision that will accelerate the company's growth across multiple geographic markets.



Poonam Faridi has been appointed as Vice President, Platform Services, Cargo Flash Infotech. She brings a blend of strategic insight and operational expertise to the role. She started her career with American Express in 2006. Later, transitioning into travel and aviation with Affordable Holidays and Group Concorde, leading passenger sales for China Airlines in India.



ALLCARGO SUPPLY CHAIN India

Karan Vir Puri has been appointed as Head, Sales to drive the growth of its Consultative Logistics business under Allcargo Supply Chain. Puri brings 20 years of experience in SCM logistics accommerce

brings 20 years of experience in SCM, logistics, e-commerce and express distribution, with a track record of business growth and transformation.



Neha Kumari has been appointed as Vice President of SaaS Products at Cargo Flash Infotech India. She is known for blending strategic vision with operational excellence. She began her career with Turkish Airlines before managing key airline accounts at Group Concorde, representing international leaders such as Air China, China Airlines, Ethiopian Airlines and FedEx, a press release stated.



V TRANS India

Dhananjay Prasad has joined V-Trans (India) as its VP, Business Development. Earlier, he held senior leadership positions at Ritco Logistics, CCI Group, DTDC, Honda Logistics and Reliance Jio BP. Prasad is experienced in contract logistics, business development, supply chain, warehousing & fulfilment, vendor management and team leadership.



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NORTH AMERICA: Chicago (ORD), New York (JFK), Newark (EWR)

UK: London Heathrow (LHR)

