



PORTS OF THE FUTURE PARTNERSHIP

A QUAD Initiative

Day 1, 29 October 2025 (Wednesday)

Inaugural Plenary session: Ports as key development anchors in the Indo-Pacific

K. Nagaraj Naidu, Additional Secretary, Americas Division, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India

Jorgan K. Andrews, Chargé d'Affaires, US Embassy New Delhi

Peter Cook, Director, PCA Maritime Ltd

R Dinesh, Executive Chairman, TVS Supply Chain Solutions

Carly Partridge, Acting Deputy Head of Mission, Australian High Commission

Misako Takahashi, Deputy Director-General / Deputy Assistant Minister (Ambassador), International Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

Unmesh Sharad Wagh, Chairman, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority

Moderator: Indrani Bagchi, CEO, Ananta Centre

Focus Areas:

- **Ports as Economic Engines:** Position ports as hubs for trade facilitation, industrial growth, and regional integration.
- **Strengthening Supply Chains:** Enhance resilience and redundancy in logistics networks to reduce vulnerabilities.
- **Connectivity & Integration:** Develop ports as seamless nodes linking sea, land, and digital corridors.
- **Future-Ready Infrastructure:** Embrace smart technologies and secure subsea cables to prepare for evolving maritime challenges.

- **Supporting Commercial & Maritime Interests:** *Align port development with the broader objectives of blue economy growth, maritime security, and cooperative prosperity.*

Session 2: Infrastructure and Investment – Quad’s pathways in the Indo-Pacific

Suja K. Menon, Joint Secretary, Development Partnership Administration- 1, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India

Clint Carmichael, Chief Operating Officer, Gujarat Pipavav Port Limited (APM Terminals)

Toru Endo, Chief Representative, Japan Bank for International Cooperation

Tijo C. Mathew, Head – Ports & Harbours Business Segment, L&T Construction

Sam Walker, Investment Director, AIFFP (Technical Adviser), Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Moderator: Nikita Singla, South Asia Scholar, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Focus Areas:

- **Scaling Infrastructure Investment:** *Mobilise greater capital flows for the development and upgrading of ports across the region.*
- **Evolving Regulatory Frameworks:** *Streamline and harmonise port-related regulations to facilitate smoother trade and logistics.*
- **Public-Private Partnerships (PPP):** *Encourage innovative PPP models for construction, port modernisation, and standards alignment.*
- **Joint Financing Mechanisms:** *Design blended finance, risk-sharing, and co-financing initiatives among Quad members to address funding gaps.*
- **Deepening Technical Partnerships:** *Share expertise on engineering, smart logistics, and regulatory best practices.*
- **Overcoming Operational Barriers:** *Tackle challenges related to project execution, governance, and interoperability of port systems.*

Session 3: Digital Infrastructure and Next-Gen Tech

Adam Baker, Vice President, Gnosis Freight

Gadi Benmoshe, MD, Marinnovators consulting & Vice chair of the Data Collaboration Committee, IAPH

Pradeep Jayaraman, CEO, Vizhinjam Port (APSEZ)

Ingvar M. Mathisen, CEO, Oslo Port

Sagar Kadu, Director Logistics, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India

Martijn Thijsen, Director Digital/Head of Global Connect, Port of Rotterdam Authority

Moderator: Meera Kumar, CEO, Diabos

Focus Areas:

- **Strengthening Maritime Cybersecurity:** Protect critical digital networks, satellite systems, and data flows essential for navigation, logistics, and port operations.
- **Smart Logistics & Resilience Anchors:** Position ports as central nodes in resilient supply chains through advanced digitalisation, automation, and predictive capabilities.
- **Technology Pilots for Commercial Port Applications:** Testbed initiatives for AI-driven vessel traffic management, automated cargo handling, IoT-enabled sensors, and drone-based monitoring.
- **Best Practices & Collaborative Frameworks:** Share experiences from advanced port systems, maritime surveillance networks, and cyber incident management. Establish joint approaches on funding, R&D cooperation, and capacity building to bolster digital resilience.
- **Future-Proofing Connectivity:** Explore innovations in secure undersea cables, quantum-resistant encryption, and AI-based threat detection for maritime infrastructure.
- **Quad R&D Exchange for Next-Gen Logistics:** Foster collaboration with like-minded Indo-Pacific partners on R&D for smart port technologies, advanced analytics, and optimisation tools.
- **Integration of Cutting-Edge Technologies:** Deploy AI, machine learning, blockchain, 5G, and robotics to enhance operational efficiency, reduce turnaround times, and strengthen port security.
- **Ease of Access & Single Window Clearance:** Build digital platforms for integrated documentation, trade facilitation, and transparent customs processes to streamline port-user experiences.

Closed-door G2G roundtable

Quad partners discuss ways, and means, to synergize their efforts and build quality port infrastructure in the Indo-Pacific.

By invitation only

Leaders' Conclave

Address by Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi

Day 2, 30 October 2025 (Thursday)

Session 4: Shipping and Shipbuilding

Dhritiman Biswas, Senior Director, Government Relations - South Asia, Cargill

Anil Devli, CEO, Indian National Shipping Association

P.L. Haranadh, Chairman, Paradip Port Trust

Sushil Kumar Singh, Chairman, Deendayal Port

Pradeep Sudhakar, Chief Ship Surveyor, Government of India

Moderator: Subhomoy Bhattacharjee, Professor of Practice and Director, Centre for Regulatory

Focus Areas:

- **Strategic Shifts in Global Shipping:** Assess how automation, and supply chain reconfiguration are reshaping the industry.
- **Forging Partnerships:** Explore avenues for collaboration among Quad and Indo-Pacific partners to strengthen shipbuilding and repair capacity.
- **Workforce Development:** Invest in skilling and reskilling programmes to build a future-ready maritime workforce.
- **Regional Shipbuilding Clusters:** Promote specialised clusters for design, construction and maintenance.
- **Innovation & Technology Integration:** Leverage digital design, advanced materials, and propulsion systems to enhance competitiveness.

Session 5: Modernising Port Logistics and Operations

R. Lakshmanan, Joint Secretary (Ports, PPP, CS, Sagarmala-I, & IT), Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Government of India

Paul E. Kent, Senior Vice President, Monument Economics Group

Alpesh Sharma, COO, JM Baxi

Harikrishnan Sundaram, Director - Colombo West International Terminal

Moderator: Afaq Hussain, Co-founder & Director, Bureau of Research on Industry and Economic Fundamentals (BRIEF), New Delhi

Focus Areas:

- **Logistics Optimisation:** Digitalise port operations using AI, IoT, and blockchain for real-time tracking, predictive maintenance, and congestion reduction. Enhance multimodal connectivity to streamline cargo movement across road, rail, and inland waterways.
- **Performance and Efficiency Frameworks:** Deploy audit mechanisms, operational benchmarks, and international best practices to improve fuel use, turnaround time, and overall energy and resource efficiency.
- **Materials and Asset Management:** Introduce structured systems for handling by-products and surplus cargo or vessel-related materials, including reprocessing and recovery mechanisms to optimise lifecycle value and reduce operational overheads.
- **Integrated Power Systems:** Expand on-site generation and diversified power sources, supported by robust grid connectivity and storage capacity to ensure uninterrupted operations under varying demand conditions.
- **Fuel and Power Infrastructure:** Develop bunkering and refuelling capacity for a wider range of fuels (LNG, hydrogen, ammonia, methanol), alongside electrification of port operations and shore-to-ship power systems to improve turnaround efficiency.