



SCI
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भारतीय नौवहन निगम लिमिटेड
The Shipping Corporation Of India Ltd.

PRESS RELEASE

'All Women Officers' Sailing' aboard SCI Tanker m.t. Swarna Krishna – A historic and landmark achievement of Shipping Corporation of India Ltd.

The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. (SCI), as a part of its ongoing Diamond Jubilee celebrations and also to commemorate the International Women's Day on 8th March, 2021 achieved another feat when Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Hon'ble Minister of State (I/c) for Ports, Shipping & Waterways, virtually flagged off the "**All Women Officers' Sailing**" on MT Swarna Krishna – SCI's product carrier from JNPT Liquid Berth Jetty on 6th March 2021.

He acknowledged the contribution and sacrifice of the women seafarers who acted as the Indian ambassadors to the global maritime community. He applauded the Officers, majority of whom hailed from the Indian Hinterlands, for choosing seafaring as a career and admired their determination for daring to take on the difficult profession regardless of the hardships, proving that they were unstoppable. Recounting the incredible feats achieved by several seafaring women in the past, he stated that women in the Indian maritime sector 'had arrived' to take on the challenges, excel in their performance and make the nation proud. He congratulated SCI's efforts in pioneering the women's integration into the sector and commended each of the 14 Lady Officers for their courage and valor; and also wished them a successful voyage and many more voyages ahead.

Dr. Sanjeev Ranjan, Secretary (Shipping), Shri Amitabh Kumar, DG Shipping, Shri Rajiv Jalota, Chairman, MbPT and Shri Sanjay Sethi, Chairman, JNPT, who attended the ceremony virtually commended the efforts of the women seafarers. Capt. Suneha Ghadpande and CEO, Ms. Divya Jatin Jain, were also present with Officers of the Team.

The Captain and CEO of m.t. Swarna Krishna narrated the experiences of their maritime career and the requisites for sustenance and excelling in the sector. A few members of the Team Swarna Krishna also spoke virtually.

A silver plaque was presented by Shri Mandaviya to the Captain of m.t. Swarna Krishna, as is customary in recognition of the Team Swarna Krishna's valour and courage to commence upon the voyage from Mumbai to Vadinar, a 'historic' and 'first ever' sailing, commanded and managed wholly by Women Officers on board on the eve of IWD 2021.

Chairman, JNPT, spoke about the paradigm shift in the perception of the sector from a 'male dominated, to an 'inclusive' one which would augur well for the Industry and congratulated SCI on achieving the same. Chairman, MbPT, joined in wishing SCI and Team Swarna Krishna for the feat accomplished which would set an example for others to follow.

DG, Shipping, while acknowledging that an "All Women Officers' sailing" had been an intense desire of the Indian Shipping Regulatory Authority for a long time also considering the meritorious women officers serving on the Indian fleet some of whom he was familiar with. He said it for sure was not an easy task to have been accomplished and commended the efforts of SCI and congratulated Mrs. H.K. Joshi, CMD, SCI, in particular, for executing

the same. He expressed pride for SCI – an organisation which was itself being led by a woman C&MD for the first time in the 60-year-old history of the company and for her determination to put such an event together. He observed that this would be the first such event globally where a vessel of a certain Flag was being commanded and managed by an “All Women Officers” of the same nationality – trained and certified also in the same country. India had thus achieved a feat in the global maritime map to do so, and that too well timed to commemorate the International Women’s Day.

Secretary, Shipping, Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, echoed the sentiments expressed by the DG Shipping and stated that such opportunities would encourage participation of young Indian girls in the maritime sector, which in turn would help attain the vision of Atma Nirbhar Bharat and aid in doubling the number of seafarers in next 5 years, in line with Maritime India Vision target.

CMD, SCI, stated that the company had an inherent culture of providing equal opportunities and had always advocated Diversity & Inclusion. This contributed in breaking down the stereotypes in the male dominated field and this concerted effort shall help the industry to move forward and support women to achieve a representation in keeping with the 21st century expectations. She thanked all stake holders for their support in making the event a success and went on to congratulate and wish the Captain, CEO and Team Swarna Krishna for a superlative performance as was expected of them and she urged the “All Woman Officers Team” who were the Brand ambassadors for the Indian maritime sector to keep the flag of the Nation flying high at all times.

The event has indeed aligned to the theme for the International Women’s Day (IWD 2021) viz “Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world” and the IMO theme 2019 viz. “Empowering women in the Maritime Community”. The Company had been honored with the Diversity & Equality Awards in the past, as also a recognition by the NUSI as the Shipping Company employing the highest number of women seafarers

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