

Specialized Training Essential for Seafarers in the Green Energy Transition

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Indian seafarers are known for their competence and adaptability, but there is a growing need for specialized training programs to equip them and the global seafaring population with the knowledge and skills required for operating ships powered by alternative fuels and energy-efficient technologies. Capt. Bjorn Hojgaard, CEO of Anglo-Eastern Shipping Group, one of the largest employers of Indian seafarers, believes that India has the potential to become a key player in the sustainable future of the global maritime industry.

The recent launch of the Global Biofuel Alliance at the G20 Summit in New Delhi is expected to create opportunities worth \$500 billion for G20 countries and promote the adoption of biofuels through technological advancements and robust standards and certification processes. Additionally, the Getting to Zero Coalition, a global alliance of over 200 organizations, aims to have commercially viable zero-emission vessels in operation by 2030 to achieve full decarbonization of the shipping industry by 2050.

With an estimated 450,000 seafarers needing additional training by 2030 and 800,000 by the mid-2030s, there is a pressing need to develop a skilled workforce capable of operating and maintaining alternative propulsion technology. The implementation of stricter emissions standards and the demand for sustainable practices necessitate the training of seafarers in green technologies. The Mumbai-based Anglo-Eastern Maritime Centre continues to provide top-quality training programs to maritime industry personnel.

To successfully navigate the green energy transition, international maritime laws and regulations need to be reviewed and reformed. Updating these policies will enable the ship manning sector to adapt to the industry's evolving needs and support the implementation of sustainable practices. Capt. Hojgaard believes that India, with its skilled officers and ratings, holds significant potential to contribute to the green energy transition in the ship-manning sector.

In conclusion, specialized training is crucial for seafarers to operate ships powered by alternative fuels and energy-efficient technologies. India has the opportunity to position itself as a key player in the sustainable future of the global maritime industry by equipping its seafarers with the necessary skills and knowledge.