

# 3rd Successive Edition of ATPI MAREX- WIMCA 2024 Held in Mumbai

- Padmesh Prabhune



The 3rd edition of the ATPI MAREX-International Maritime Women-Empowerment Conference & Awards (WIMCA 2024) was successfully held at The Taj Santacruz, Mumbai on May 15th, in all its sincerity but with some fun and frolic at the end as well. The theme for this year was – Invest in Women - Shape the Future of Maritime

The event began with the traditional lighting of the Samai at the hands of the Chief Guest Shri Shyam Jagannathan, along with Capt Kamal Chadha, Mrs H.K Joshi, Mrs. Delina Khongdup, and Mrs Barnali Barua Tokhi.

Acknowledging the presence of women achievers at the event, Shri Jagannathan said, "It's indeed a pleasure to be here and share the dais with eminent personalities adding value to to-days' event."

Jagannathan shared the governments' perspectives and initiatives aimed at

ensuring higher women participations in the maritime industry. He said, "Awareness, incentivization, promoting gender sensitization, zero tolerance towards discrimination towards women, and for promoting positive stories about women maritime professionals, would be the five-step formula to adopt for higher engagement of women in the industry."

## Deliberations on Gender Equality & Equity

Earlier in the evening Capt Chadha, M D & Editor, Marex Media welcomed the guests in his speech and was followed by a speech from Mrs Joshi, Chairperson of the Board of Advisors WIMCA 2024, complementing MAREX for being the pioneer in celebrating the International Day for Women.

The Guest of Honour- Ms Barnali Barua Tokhi, Managing Director, BRPL having a rich experience in upstream industries addressed the audience with her inspiring

incidents over the years. She said, "Women have been doing wonderful jobs as maritime professionals, breaking many myths and barriers; else they would have never made their mark in the industry which has been historically dominated by males."

Thereafter, keynote address by Ms Delina Khongdup, Honourable Member National Commission for Women (NCW) Delhi, a statutory body safeguarding women interests shared her experiences of gender differences, mentioning the fact that Manipur was first among the states to have all women-run -the IMA market in the heart of Imphal city in Manipur run entirely by women with no male vendors allowed. She said "Women have been doing equally well in all professions, and the maritime sector should not be deterrent anymore".

The Conference marks the beginning of the new era in women empowerment and was all deliberations and discussions to ensure



### Awards-Individual Category

1. Catalyst of Change - Sanjam Sahi Gupta
2. Woman of Exemplary Courage - Humera Shah
3. Excellence in Entrepreneurship - Arul Josphine Mary
4. Rising Star in Maritime - Priyanka Sarda
5. Excellence in Strategic Planning in Maritime - Gizelle Pinto Gomes
6. Woman on a Mission - Dr Deepthi Mankad
7. Excellence in Maritime Education and Training- Amita Anant Kamath
8. Trailblazer of the Year - Dr Seema Gurnani
9. Exceptional Professional Achievement in Maritime - Bandita Mahapatra
10. Young Achiever - Aditi Maheshwari
11. Excellence in People Management Strategy in Maritime - Sneha Patil



### Awards-Organization Category

1. Excellence in Women Safety  
The International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network - ISWAN
2. Excellence in Promoting Gender Equity  
Maersk Fleet Management and Technology India Private Limited
3. Excellence in Women Empowerment  
Chitkara University School of Maritime Studies
4. Excellence in Gender Diversity  
Seaspan Crew Management India Private Limited
5. Excellence in Promoting Women Development  
Anglo Eastern Ship Management Ltd



more and more women opt for a career in Maritime.

The conference was divided into three sessions with a Debate - 'Enough Is Being Done For Women In Maritime'; a Panel Discussion- 'Trajectory Of Women In Maritime in Next 5 years'; and a Conversation- 'Incredible Experiences of Women in Maritime', that together made it all very lively and interesting.

While the speakers for the Debate included the stalwarts from across the maritime industry of the likes of Capt (Dr.) Daniel J Joseph, Dy. DGS (Crew); Capt Deepak Correa, COO Fleet Management Ltd; Capt Anuradha Jha, Safety & Nautical Compliance Superintendent, APM Maersk; and Capt Arvind Shankar, Culture & Capability, Maersk; for the Panel Discussion it was Mr. Vishanathan Kamath, TS Rahaman; Ms Sanjam Sahi Gupta, Director, Sitara Shipping

Ltd; Capt. Dinesh Jairam, General Manager, Fleet Personnel, Seaspan Crew Management India Pvt. Ltd; Mrs Ambika Singh, Sr Mktg. Manager, JNPA; and Mrs Aishwarya Gupta Pilankar, M.D, Nautical Marine Management Services, Pvt. Ltd.

Participating in the 'Tell us Your Story' were women seafarers, Ms Ayesha Vaz, Ms Pradnya Ghayvat, Ms Ishita Chopra, and Ms Meghna Menon (Sr ETO) from Seaspan,



## Participants of the 2nd edition of Walk of Success

1. Capt Ayesha Vaz
2. Capt Anuradha Jha
3. Shilpa Bali
4. Sonia Parmar
5. Reni Dias
6. Lea Fernandes
7. Priyanka Gupta
8. Bharati Mukesh
9. Puja Rawat
10. Dr Delna Shroff
11. Saleha Shaikh
12. Archana Saxena Sangal
13. Sandhya Pillai
14. Maria Lacerda Barretto
15. Dr Corinne Idnani
16. Leena Mody
17. Hetal Philips
18. Ghazalah Moloobhoy
19. Shaheen S
20. Jhanvi Mehta
21. Sanjam Sahi Gupta



giving insights from gender equality perspectives.

The Moderator for various sessions were; for the Debate: Capt Mandar Shete, Head HSEQ, The Great Eastern Shipping Co Ltd., For the Panel Discussion: Capt Tushar Pradhan, General Secretary, The Maritime Union of India, and for the 'Story' segment: Capt Arun Mehta M.D, India, OSM-Thome.

Across the board it was agreed that though

gender equality and equity remain a priority across all maritime sectors, the fact that women participation in maritime sector needs a big boost and increased awareness across the society at large, are the immediate requirements of the hour.

This kind of conference is to be equally followed-up with Recruitment Outreach programs to ensure more and more women join the maritime industry. While Capt Yashoverman Sharma made the concluding

remarks, Capt Kamal Chadha delivered the vote of thanks.

In its endeavor to appreciate and promote women empowerment, the event included a special 'Walk of Success', wherein successful women from across the sectors were presented with a memento appreciating their efforts and contribution to the industry.

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