

Major Ports in India - List of Western & Eastern Coast Ports in India

Jawahar Lal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) won the award of the 'Best Global Port in India', the third time in a row in the Atal Shastra Markenomy Award 2020. Marine transport in India is controlled and administered by the state and the central governments. While the shipping ministry manages the major ports, the intermediate and the minor ports are administered by the State government in which the port is located.

Read about [Jawahar Lal Nehru Port Trust](#) in the linked article.

Do you know?

1. India's 95% of trading by volume is done through maritime transport. It stands at 70% by value.
2. India has 13 major ports and 205 notified minor and intermediate ports.
3. Six new mega ports are to be developed under the [Sagarmala Project](#).

The majority of ports in India are located in the below-given states:

1. Maharashtra -53
2. Gujarat -40
3. Tamil Nadu – 15
4. Karnataka – 10

Introduction to Major Ports in India

All ports in India are situated in the 9 coastal states of India namely Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu. India's extended coastline forms one of the major portions of land that juts out into a water body. Thirteen major ports in the country handle a lot of volume of container and cargo traffic.

On the west coast, there are the ports of Mumbai, Kandla, Mangalore, JNPT, Mormugao, and Cochin. The ones on the east coast are the ports at Chennai, Tuticorin, Visakhapatnam, Paradip, Kolkata, and Ennore. The last one, Ennore is a registered public company with the government owning a 68% stake. In Andaman and Nicobar Islands, there is Port Blair. Mumbai is the largest natural port in India.

This topic is relevant for [IAS Exam](#) and other government exams in India.

Aspirants can refer to the linked articles mentioned in the table below:

GI Tags in India	List of National Parks in India	UNESCO World Heritage Sites in India
Natural Vegetation in India	Major River Systems in India	Important Lakes in India

Important Ports in India

The list of important ports in India is given below:

Zone	State	Port	Features
Eastern Coast	Tamil Nadu	Chennai	Artificial Port Second busiest port
Western Coast	Kerala	Kochi	Sited in the Vembanad lake Exports of spices and salts
Eastern Coast	Tamil Nadu	Ennore	India's First corporatized port
Eastern Coast	West Bengal	Kolkata	India's only major Riverine port Situated on Hugli river Known as Diamond Harbour
Western Coast	Gujarat	Kandla	Known as Tidal Port Acknowledged as Trade Free Zone Largest port by volume of cargo handled.
Western Coast	Karnataka	Mangalore	Deals with the iron ore exports
Western Coast	Goa	Mormugao	Situated on the estuary of the river Zuari
Western Coast	Maharashtra	Mumbai Port Trust	Largest Natural Port and harbour In India The busiest port in India
Western Coast	Maharashtra	Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) also known as Nhava Sheva, Navi Mumbai	Largest Artificial Port It is the Largest Container Port in India.
Eastern Coast	Odisha	Paradip	Natural Harbor deals with the export of iron and aluminium
Eastern Coast	Tamil Nadu	Tuticorin	A major port in south India deals with the fertilizers and petrochemical

			products
Eastern Coast	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam	Deepest port of India deals with the export of iron ore to Japan. Amenities for building and fixing of ships are available
Bay of Bengal	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Port Blair	The port connected to the mainland of India through ship and flight. This port is situated in between two international shipping lines namely Saudi Arabia & US Singapore.

Major Ports in India is an important static GK topic. For information on various [static GK topics](#) check the article linked here.

The classification of ports into major, minor, and intermediate has administrative significance.

The Union Shipping Ministry handles the major ports, the minor and intermediate ports are administered by the relevant departments or ministries of the respective coastal states.

Government Initiatives for Port Sector

1. Drawing from the government's Blue Economy policy, the [Union Budget 2021](#) makes allocations for expansion of shipping and inland waterways infrastructure along with ₹2,000 crores for PPP model in all major ports.
2. [Make in India](#) – In line with this initiative, Ministry of Shipping amended the guidelines of Right of First Refusal (ROFR)licensing conditions. Chartering of vessels priority is given to the vessels built in India, flagged in the country and owned by the Indians.
3. National Logistics Portal (Marine) will be developed to help exporters, importers and service providers.
4. SAROD-Ports' (Society for Affordable Redressal of Disputes – Ports) is a dispute redressal portal developed by Ministry of Shipping for the private players.
5. Major Port Authorities Bill 2020 has been passed by the Parliament that aims to repeal Major Ports Trust Act, 1963. It will establish a Board of Major Port Authority for each major port.