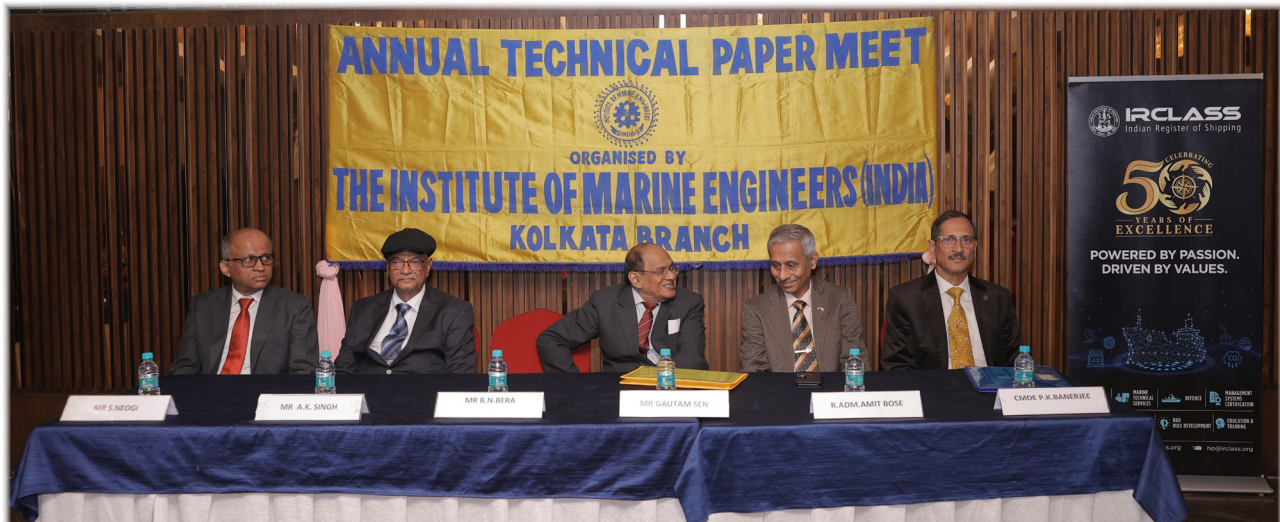


Navigating the Future: Insights from the Annual Technical Paper Meet



The Annual Technical Paper Meet of IME(I) Kolkata Branch was successfully held on 4th January 2025, from 9:30 AM onwards at Princeton Club, Kolkata. This year's theme, **'The Future of Navigation,'** explored emerging trends, technological advancements and evolving challenges in the maritime sector.

The event commenced with a warm welcome from **Mr. Gautam Sen**, Chairman, IME(I) Kolkata Branch who emphasised the broader meaning of **'navigation'**—not just ship movement but also the technological, environmental and regulatory advancements essential for maritime operations.

The proceedings were conducted by **Shri Abhijit Banerjee**, Hon. Secretary, who ensured a smooth flow of discussions throughout the event.

The **Chief Guest**, **Mr. B.N. Bera**, **Ex-Director, DMET Kolkata**, was unable to attend due to a sudden health concern. All attendees extended their heartfelt wishes for his speedy recovery.

The Guest of Honour, **Rear Admiral Amit Bose (Retd.)**, Director, Indian Maritime University (IMU) Kolkata Campus provided valuable insights into the expected transformations in shipping. He stressed the need for maritime professionals to stay ahead of technological advancements and embrace industry changes.



Technical Paper Presentations

1. **Mr. Arun Kumar Singh**, Visiting Faculty, IMU Kolkata Campus, delivered an engaging talk on Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML), Big Data Analytics and fuel-efficient technologies in maritime navigation. He discussed how automation, environmental awareness, regulatory changes, and cybersecurity will shape the industry's future.
2. **Commodore Prodyut Kumar Banerjee (Retd.)**, Navy veteran and author, addressed the challenges of safe navigation in the future. He explored the concept of **'Blue Acceleration'**—the rapid expansion of human activities in the ocean—and emphasised the importance of technological advancements and the human element in maritime safety.
3. **Mr. Soumitra Neogi**, Professor of Practice (Marine Engineering & Technology), IMU Kolkata Campus, provided an in-depth analysis of technological innovations that will define the future of shipping. He highlighted

the importance of training seafarers to adapt to evolving technology, regulatory shifts, and industry demands.



An interactive Q&A session was moderated by **Mr. Sen**, where attendees actively participated in discussions on the latest maritime trends and challenges.

Mr. S.K. Sarkar, EC Member, summarised the key takeaways from the event, ensuring that the insights gained were well captured.

The event also featured a showcase of Cmde. Banerjee's latest book, *'Command of a Warship'*, adding an enriching literary dimension to the meet.



The event concluded with a vote of thanks by the Hon. Secretary, followed by a networking lunch.

