

## Chandigarh Chapter AGM 2024: Reviewing Achievements and Future Goals

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Institute of Marine Engineers India IME(I) Chandigarh Chapter was held on 18th September 2024 at Hotel Chandigarh Beckons, Sector 42C, Chandigarh, at 1600 hrs. The meeting began with a review of the chapter's activities for the year 2023-2024.

One of the highlights of the year was the celebration of National Maritime Day (NMD) on 5th April 2023 at the IEI Bhawan, Sector 19A, Chandigarh. This was the first time NMD was celebrated jointly with the Institution of Engineers India (IEI) after it became a part of their official calendar. The event was organised in collaboration with MNOA-Chandigarh, CMMI-Chandigarh, and members of the IEI-Chandigarh & Punjab State branch.



Another key event was the seminar on "Net Zero: Alternate Fuel for Marine Propulsion," held on 25th April 2023 at the IEI Bhawan. This seminar, organized by the Marine Engineering Division Board of IEI Punjab and Chandigarh State Centre in association with IME(I) Chandigarh, MNOA, CMMI, and other organizations, attracted 100 attendees. The event focused on exploring alternative fuels and innovative solutions for achieving net-zero emissions in the maritime sector.

Throughout the year, several webinars were organised by various maritime bodies, with IME(I) members encouraged to participate.

One of the major events was the All-India Two-Day Seminar, held in collaboration with the Institution of Engineers India, the Institute of Marine Engineers India,

and the Institution for Innovation Industrial Engineering and Entrepreneurship Mumbai. The seminar, on the theme "Sailing Towards a Circular Economy: Imperatives and Opportunities in the Maritime Sector," took place on 6th June 2023 at Engineers' Bhawan, Shimla. It was inaugurated by Shri Sanjay Kundu, DGP of Himachal Pradesh, and a distinguished alumnus of DMET. The seminar was a resounding success.

On 27th October 2023, IME(I) Chandigarh Chapter, in association with MRDB, IEI, and MNOA, hosted a seminar on "Basics of Contemporary Ship Finance" at IEI Bhawan, Chandigarh. The event was presided over by **Cdr. Dr. Baskar Bhandarkar**, Vice President of IME(I) and Chairman of MEDB, IEI. **Shri. Jagmeet Makkar**, former IME(I) Chair at Indian Maritime University, delivered the lecture. This hybrid event saw 35 mariners attending in person.

Another significant event was the seminar on "Increasing Global Risks and Probable Impact on the Shipping Industry," held on 1st March 2024 at IEI Bhawan, Chandigarh. The seminar, presented by Mr. Jagmeet Makkar, included a panel discussion and was attended by 32 mariners.

During the year, a total of six management meetings were held to discuss various chapter activities. The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd September 2023 at Hotel Chandigarh Beckons were presented, and the action taken report was adopted without modifications.

The audited account statement for FY 2023-24, along with the balance sheet, was circulated to all members via email and presented during the AGM. The financials were approved by those in attendance.

Looking ahead, the chapter plans to focus on increasing its membership base. A key point of discussion was the challenge of encouraging sailing members to attend seminars and events. The chapter aims to engage more young professionals and increase participation in future activities.

A suggestion to organise an Annual Contributory Dinner for members and their families was well received, and the chapter hopes to implement this idea in the upcoming year.

The meeting concluded at 5:30 PM and was followed by high tea.