

e-CARGO NEWSLETTER



e-Newsletter from **RIGHT LOGISTICS**



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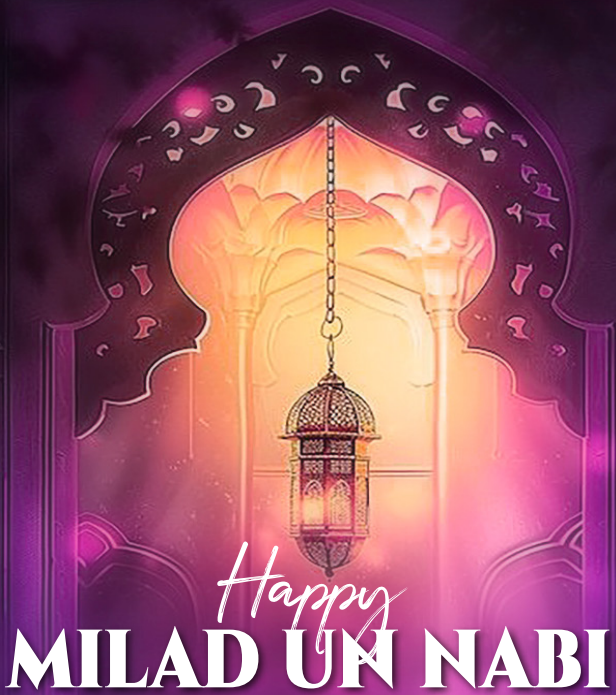
NEW STRINGS
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AIR CARGO Demand soars high

Air cargo demand hit record highs year-to-date in July, with strong growth across all regions, according to the latest update from the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

Total demand, measured in cargo tonne-kilometres (CTKs*), rose 13.6% in July compared to 2023 levels (14.3% for international operations), marking the eighth consecutive month of double-digit year-on-year (y-o-y) growth, with overall levels reaching heights not seen since the record peaks of 2021.

Capacity, measured in available cargo tonne-kilometres (ACTKs*), increased by 8.3% compared to last July (10.1% for international operations).

This was largely related to the growth in international belly capacity, which rose 12.8% on the strength of passenger markets and balancing the 6.9% growth of international freighter capacity, IATA explains. The increase in belly capacity is, however, the lowest in 40 months, whereas the growth in freighter capacity is the highest since an exceptional jump was recorded in January 2024.

“The air cargo business continues to benefit from growth in global trade, booming e-commerce, and capacity constraints on maritime shipping. With the peak season still to come, it is shaping up to be a very strong year for air cargo, and airlines have proven adept at navigating political and economic uncertainties to flexibly meet emerging demand trends,” said Willie Walsh, IATA’s director general.

At a regional level, African airlines saw 6.2% y-o-y demand growth for air cargo in July – the lowest of all regions and their lowest recorded figure in 2024. Demand on the Africa-Asia market increased by 15.4% compared to July 2023 while capacity increased by 10.5% y-o-y.

CONCOR TO RESTART COASTAL SHIPPING IN INDIA

Container Corporation of India Ltd (Concor) is soon starting coastal movement of goods as part of its multi-modal logistics strategy to offer a cheap, fast, and cleaner mode of transportation.

In June this year, Concor and Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to explore business opportunities for leveraging the advantage of each other's infrastructure and experience in synergy to offer seamless and cost-effective end-to-end logistics services to customers under a single window.

Sanjay Swarup, CMD, Concor stated that coastal shipping is a very eco-friendly mode of transport. The company had launched the coastal shipping services pre-Covid in Jan 2019 and had developed some streams from Gujarat to the South. The service was stopped in 2020 during Covid.

"So now we have collaborated with the Shipping Corporation and very soon, we will be starting coastal movement from Gujarat to South India and even from South to the eastern side of the country. So you will hear very soon that we are going to start the coastal movement," Swarup recently told investors.

The MoU will enable SCI's shipping services to develop Concor's footprint in overseas locations and also to foray into the field of coastal and inland waterways trade to offer a wide range of customisable logistics solutions for the benefit of trade at large.

The commodities identified for the coastal route include waste paper, ceramic tiles, sanitary ware, soda, cotton bale and consumer durables.

Concor has been focusing on providing first-and last-mile connectivity to its customers and coastal shipping can be a key link to this. It has also started a logistics app for providing first-mile and last-mile services.

"First mile, last mile (FMLM) has been a very big hit. I can now share the volume numbers with you. In the first quarter (Q1FY25), in the first mile, last mile, we had an income of Rs 82 crores, which is a growth of 35% year-on-year," said Swarup.



ONE AIR ADDS A THIRD BOEING 747-400 FREIGHTER

British cargo airline, One Air, has entered its second year of flight operations by adding a third Boeing 747 freighter to its fleet to meet strong demand for cargo capacity in Asia and Europe.

The Boeing 747-400ERF has joined One Air on a five-year lease from AeroTransCargo FZE and completed its first flight for the airline from Hong Kong to East Midlands Airport.

An original Boeing-built freighter, it is the first aircraft in One Air's fleet to offer a nose door as well as a side door for loading and unloading. The -400ERF version also offers a higher payload capacity of up to 124,000kgs.



NEW AIR CARGO ROUTES LINK CHINA WITH BELGIUM, HUNGARY

Two new all-cargo international routes, connecting northwest China's Shaanxi Province to the Belgian city of Liege and Budapest, the capital of Hungary, took flight this week, marking a significant boost to trade and cultural exchanges between China and Europe.

The two routes will operate two round-trip flights weekly from Xi'an, the provincial capital of Shaanxi, with 104 flights per year.



CATHAY CARGO WANTS INDIAN AIRLINES TO USE HONG KONG-BASED CARGO TERMINAL

Cathay Cargo, said it wants Indian airlines to use its Hong Kong-based cargo terminal for various freight movements and is already in active discussion with one carrier.



According to Mark Watts, Chief Operating Officer of Cathay Cargo Terminal, the facility, with an annual shipment handling capacity of 2.7 million tonnes, is open for all airlines that fly into Hong Kong. Watts said the facility, spread over 1 lakh square metres, is "right-sized for the short and medium term", and has scope for further expansion.

"In terms of our overall facility size, we actually think we're right-sized for the short and medium term...we've got plenty of rooms to grow in terms of general cargo in Hong Kong.

LUFTHANSA CARGO EXPANDS US-ASIA CONNECTIVITY

Lufthansa Cargo is set to debut a new route in its winter schedule, connecting Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) to Ho Chi Minh City (SGN) for the first time. This marks a significant milestone as Lufthansa Cargo bridges the United States and Asia with direct cargo flights.

The launch of this new service is made possible by the recent addition of Lufthansa Cargo's 18th Boeing 777F.



INDIGO CARGO'S NEW FLIGHTS BETWEEN KOLKATA AND EZHOU

IndiGo Airlines CarGo division launched its inaugural cargo flight between Ezhou-Kolkata. An Airbus A321F freighter landed at Ezhou Huahu International Airport at 13:32, marking the start of this new air cargo route.

The service operates thrice weekly on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, offering 160 tons of weekly cargo capacity. Imports focus on fresh products, while exports include e-commerce and general goods.



INDIGO'S CARGO EYES RECORD CARGO GROWTH

IndiGo's cargo operations are projected to grow by 17% this fiscal year, reflecting a robust expansion in its logistics capabilities. The airline's cargo sector has been a crucial component of its business strategy, complementing its passenger services with a strong focus on freight solutions.

QATAR CARGO TO INTRODUCE OCTOLOOP FOR ONLINE BOOKINGS IN INDIA

Qatar Airways Cargo (QAC) selected Octolooop by Cargo Flash as its digital cargo booking platform via its wallet services from India, starting with Delhi and Mumbai.

The partnership will streamline operations and increase efficiency for QAC by giving opportunities to incremental freight forwarders to connect and take advantage of its air freight services on the airline's extensive network network, says an official release from Qatar Airways. Octolooop offers features including:

- *Real time rates with dynamic pricing
- *Connecting SMEs directly with the airline
- *Instant capacity bookings
- *Revenue enhancement opportunities; and
- *Cost-effective and scalable solution

QAC INTRODUCES AIRPLUS SOLUTIONS

Qatar Airways Cargo (QAC) announced the launch of AirPlus Solutions, offering enhanced services for various cargo products.

Q-Climate: Provides temperature control for additional product categories, ensuring a seamless cool chain and ramp protection against external weather elements. It is applicable to general cargo and vulnerable cargo. Customers can select from three standard temperature ranges: COL (+2°C to +8°C), CRT (+15°C to +25°C), or ERT (+2°C to +25°C).

Q-Plus: Offers prioritised capacity for time-sensitive shipments, ensuring high-priority handling on confirmed flights or the next available flight if the requested flight can no longer accept bookings. Available as an add-on for Qatar Airways Cargo's General Cargo, SecureLift (Vulnerable Cargo), Fresh Care (perishable cargo), and Drive (automobiles) products.

Q-Prime: Guarantees urgent shipments needing guaranteed uplift with prioritised processing, best or preferred connections, and a money-back guarantee if the shipment does not fly as confirmed. Q-Prime can also be used to gain capacity on full flights in urgent cases, where possible. The Control Tower monitors the shipment throughout its journey proactively solving possible disruptions. Available as an add-on for Qatar Airways Cargo's General Cargo, SecureLift (Vulnerable and Valuable Cargo), perishable cargo and Drive products (automobiles)

OPEN THE DOOR FOR NEW DIRECTION



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Noida International Airport's capacity will exceed one lakh tonnes when its facility opens



The development works on the cargo terminal and multimodal cargo hub at Noida International Airport in Uttar Pradesh's Jewar are in full swing with work being done in partnership with Air India SATS, NIA Chief Executive Officer Christoph Schnellmann said and noted there will be cargo capacity for well over one lakh tonnes of cargo when the facility opens.

Schnellmann told ANI that work on the passenger terminal is also in full swing.

"The development works on the cargo terminal and multimodal cargo hub are in full swing as well. We're working in partnership with Air India SATS who have designed the facility, who are constructing the facility and who will operate the facility. There will be a capacity for well over 1 lakh tonnes of cargo when the facility opens and it's designed in a modular fashion to grow with the demand. We plan to submit our application for the aerodrome license this year," he said.

Schnellmann said they plan to submit our application for the aerodrome license this year.

"We have an opportunity today to showcase the development progress that we've made

for Noida International Airport over the past 4.5 years...We expect to see an increase in flight operations over the next few weeks and months. We expect to see calibration flights for the instrument landing system take place in September," he said.

"In October, we expect to see a number of validation flights for the approach and departure procedures later this year," he added.

Answering queries, he said the design that they have selected for the passenger terminal will incorporate heavily the rich architectural heritage of the region. "We'll be using design elements that are prevalent in North India, in western UP," he said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Jewar Airport on November 26, 2021.

The airport is expected to be operational later this year, two years before IGI Airport reaches its threshold traffic handling capacity.

The airport will be strategically located at about 72 km from Indira Gandhi International Airport, about 52 kilometres from Noida, about 130 kilometres from Agra and about 90 kilometres from Multi-Modal Logistics Hub at Dadri.

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Happy Birthday

Employee Name	Birth Date
PAVITHRA R	05-AUGUST
BINUJA B	09-AUGUST
RAJESH VARATHAN	12-AUGUST
AIBEL O NAMBADAN	26-AUGUST
PRINCE N K	31-AUGUST

ANOTHER BOOST FOR INDIA AS APPLE SIGNALS IPHONE PRO PRODUCTION SHIFT

Amid the “violent” changing structure of global trade, India is showcasing as an attractive alternative to China, according to Transport Intelligence (Ti). A recent Bloomberg article reports that this year US tech giant Apple is set to make its most expensive iPhone Pro and Pro Max models in India for the first time – the company is already relying on India for 14% of its production.

The article says Apple sub-contractor Foxconn has “already begun training thousands of workers at its factory in southern Tamil Nadu state”. Historically, Apple has been notable for its reliance on China for both sourcing of components and product assembly. But according to Ti, it is unclear how reliant Apple is on Chinese component suppliers to support its assembly operations in India.

Over the past few years, logistics infrastructure in India had “made real progress”, with the level of demand growth likely to support continuing investment. Airfreight providers in India have begun to enhance their freight capabilities, with IndiGo introducing new freighter aircraft and AirIndia being restructured, while there has been investment into Mundra Port and several 100,000 km of new highway a year.

GARMENT EXPORTS FACE DISRUPTION FOLLOWING BANGLADESH FACTORY CLOSURES

Garment exports from Bangladesh are likely to face delays, or cancellation, with hundreds of factories closed over a labour dispute.

Closures began last week in industrial districts near Dhaka. According to the police, some 219 factories are closed in Ashulia, a major garment centre.

Many factories have been vandalised by the workers, to press home their demands, including a wage hike and better facilities.

The government formed a taskforce to discuss the labour issues and find ways to meet their demands. It also discussed forming a new wage board. Some factories have also reportedly closed because of a lack of orders, while others have struggled to get raw materials.

Freight rates into and out of Bangladesh have risen fast in recent months. According to Xeneta, air freight spot rates from Bangladesh to Europe hit \$4.95/kg last month, and \$6.912/kg to North America, with load factors hitting 97%, attracting more ad hoc freighter services to the country. One source in Bangladesh claimed rates had hit \$9 to the US, and \$7 to Europe.



Shipping

SNIPPETS

ULTRA-LARGE CONTAINER VESSEL MSC CLAUDE GIRARDET DOCKS AT VIZHINJAM



MSC Claude Girardet, the largest cargo ship ever to have docked in India, has arrived at the Vizhinjam International Seaport. MSC seems to be pushing firm strategic plans to redefine its container transshipment flow in South Asia.

The Geneva-based carrier is on an ad-hoc call spree at India's new Vizhinjam port for regional transshipment movement, with the MSC Claude Girardet the latest "star addition" – believed to be the largest containership ever to call at any South Asian port.

The 400m-long Claude Girardet, one of the largest in MSC's modern fleet, was built in 2023. No scheduled or regular service has been declared for the vessel as of now, sources said. For MSC, the frenzied vessel positioning signals its intent to use Vizhinjam as an alternative hub in South Asia, as Sri Lanka's Colombo port has had to deal with significant capacity pressures in recent months amid stronger-than-expected volume spikes from the Red Sea-linked diversions.

Industry sources believe bigger calls like the Claude Girardet at Vizhinjam could become a game-changer for India's long-contemplated hub ambitions, having yielded limited success out of the DP World-managed Vallarpadam terminal in Cochin, which began operations a decade ago.

Some of the key advantages that the port offers are a 20-metre draught availability for berthing ultra-large container vessels with capacity of up to 24,000 teu and its proximity to the busy east-west international shipping axis, about 175 nautical miles from Colombo.

CARRIERS ANNOUNCE DISRUPTION SURCHARGES FOR US EAST COAST CARGO

As the possibility of strike action at ports on the US east and Gulf coasts draws nearer by the day, container shipping lines serving the region have begun to announce disruption surcharges.

On 1 September, MSC notified customers it would apply a \$1,000 per 20ft and \$1,500 per 40ft Emergency Operations Surcharge (EOS) from 1 October (the date set for the strike to begin) on all shipments from Europe to the US east and Gulf coasts, as well as to ports in the Caribbean, Mexico and Canada.

That was followed by a CMA CGM advice that US east and Gulf coast local port charges for import shipments of \$1,500 per teu would be applied from 11 October, while export shipments would be subject to local port charges of \$800 per 20ft and \$1,000 per 40ft on the same date.

The French carrier has also advised customers that it would apply a \$500 per teu rate 'restoration initiative' on all transatlantic shipments from 1 October. Now, Hapag-Lloyd became the latest carrier to announce a port strike surcharge, revealing it would apply a Work Disruption Surcharge of \$1,000 per teu from 18 October on container shipments to the US east and Gulf coasts.

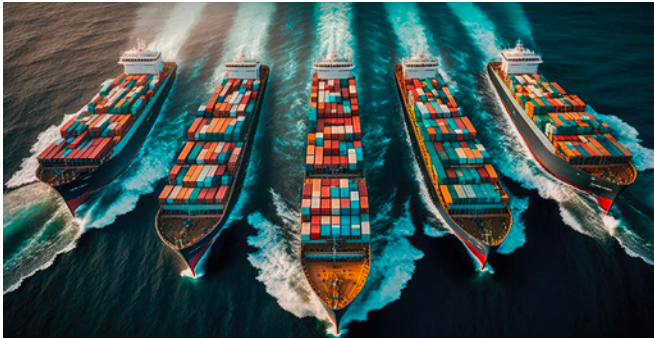


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NEW STRINGS ATTACHED - SHIPPING SHAPES UP FOR 2025 WITH PREMIER ALLIANCE LAUNCH



The structure of the global container shipping alliance next year is set for a further shake-up after MSC unveiled its new standalone east-west service network and revealed it has concluded a vessel-sharing agreement (VSA) with THE Alliance, covering nine Asia-Europe services.

The pivot point is February 2025, when the 2M partnership of MSC and Maersk is set to disband, while at the same time Hapag-Lloyd will depart THE Alliance to form the Gemini Cooperation with Maersk – at which point, the remaining three THE Alliance carriers – ONE, Yang Ming and HMM – will rebrand as the Premier Alliance and enter into a slot-share agreement with MSC covering the Asia-Europe trades. In a parallel development, MSC has also signed a three-year VSA with Zim on the transpacific trade. ZIM announce that it and MSC had concluded a vessel-sharing agreement on the Asia-North America east coast trade.

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INDIA REDUCES HANDLING CHARGES FOR EMPTY CONTAINERS, TO PROCURE MORE SHIPS TO CUT FREIGHT COST AND DELAYS

India has reduced handling and loading costs of empty containers by the Container Corporation of India Ltd (CONCOR) and is in the process of procuring five pre-owned ships to lower freight costs and reduce container turnaround time.

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal held a meeting with officials from the Ministries of Finance, Civil Aviation, Railways, Ports and Shipping, along with other stakeholders, to address issues related to shipping, cargo handling, containers, express packages, and insurance. Addressing the media after the briefing, Goyal stated that the meeting aimed to ensure Indian exporters don't suffer in terms of logistics costs or delays.

Goyal noted that overall freight charges, which had risen due to geopolitical issues, have already dropped by 20%, and are expected to fall by 25-30% in the coming days due to additional measures. The inter-ministerial committee is slated to have its next meeting by the end of October. A multidisciplinary help desk will be established to support exporters, and the Shipping Ministry indicated that new vessel procurement could increase India's total container capacity by 10-12%.

Digital payments have been mandated for empty containers, and parking charges have been significantly reduced: from ₹6,000 to ₹1,500 for 20-foot containers, and from ₹9,000 to ₹2,000 for 40-foot containers.



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