



SAARTHI - सारथी

करियर मार्गदर्शन पोर्टल · Career Guidance Portal

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करियर शीट · CAREER SHEET

पोर्ट ऑपरेशंस मैनेजर

A Port Operations Manager is the backbone of everything that happens at a port or terminal — planning vessel arrivals and departures, managing cargo and container loading/unloading, cranes and equipment, warehousing, customs...



Scan for everything on this career

Salary, exams, colleges, the routes in and the steps after — all on the portal.

career.gsssjethantri.in/#/career/port-operations-manager

राजकीय उच्च माध्यमिक विद्यालय, जेठन्तरी

Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Jethantri · ब्लॉक समदड़ी · बालोतरा (Block Samdari · Balotra)

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सुशील कुमार शर्मा

प्रधानाचार्य, रा.उ.मा.वि. जेठन्तरी · मास्टर ट्रेनर
Principal, GSSS Jethantri · Master Trainer



श्री चेनाराम चौधरी

प्रधानाचार्य, डाइट बाड़मेर
Principal, DIET Barmer



श्रीमती संघमित्रा

वरिष्ठ व्याख्याता, डाइट बाड़मेर (सहयोग)
Sr. Lecturer, DIET Barmer (Support)



भरत चौधरी

अभिकल्पना व विकास · व्याख्याता (इतिहास)
Designed & developed · Lecturer (History)

विशेष धन्यवाद · SPECIAL THANKS



सुरेन्द्र सिंह राठौड़

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. कानाना



सुरेश कुमार सैन

व्याख्याता (भूगोल) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



वनिता कुमारी

व्याख्याता (इतिहास) · रा.उ.मा.वि. रामसीन मूंगड़ा



कमलेश चौधरी

व्याख्याता (राजनीति विज्ञान) · रा.उ.मा.वि. टापरा

करियर मार्गदर्शन कार्यशाला, डाइट बाड़मेर (14-17 जुलाई 2026) में विकसित व लोकार्पित
Developed & unveiled at the Career Guidance Workshop, DIET Barmer (14-17 July 2026)

यह एक स्वतंत्र परियोजना है, जो सरकार की आधिकारिक करियर-मार्गदर्शन सामग्री पर आधारित है। · An independent project based on the Government's official career-guidance content.

1 About this career

A Port Operations Manager is the backbone of everything that happens at a port or terminal — planning vessel arrivals and departures, managing cargo and container loading/unloading, cranes and equipment, warehousing, customs clearance, and the movement of goods by truck and rail. Coordinating between labour, stevedores, shipping lines and government agencies, they make sure cargo moves safely, quickly and by the rules. Since about 95% of India's foreign trade by volume moves by sea, this is an important, well-paid career in the logistics and supply-chain industry.

2 At a glance

Minimum qualification	Graduation + diploma/MBA in port/shipping/logistics
Course duration	3-yr degree + 1–2-yr MBA/diploma
Starting salary	₹35,000–60,000/month
Work mode	Shift-based full-time at port/terminal/ICD

3 What you need

INTERESTS

- Interest in ships, cargo, containers and global trade
- Keen to solve large-scale logistics and supply-chain problems
- Enjoy planning, coordinating and leading teams

ABILITIES

- Quick decision-making and time management under pressure
- Leadership, communication and problem-solving skills
- Aptitude for numbers, schedules and data

KEY SKILLS

- Vessel and berth scheduling and cargo-handling planning
- Using terminal operating systems (TOS) and ERP software
- Coordinating with shipping lines, stevedores, transporters and labour
- Cost control, performance reporting and team leadership
- Managing container, crane and terminal equipment operations
- Compliance with customs, safety and maritime rules (ISPS)
- Safety (HSE), risk management and emergency handling

4 How to get there

- 1 Complete Class 12 (any stream; maths/commerce helps).
- 2 Do a graduation — logistics, commerce, engineering or nautical science are good options.
- 3 Sit IMU CET for an MBA (Port & Shipping Management) or a diploma in port/logistics at Indian Maritime University (IMU).
- 4 Gain experience as an operations executive/trainee at a port, container terminal or ICD.
- 5 Build expertise in TOS software, safety rules and cargo handling.
- 6 With experience, rise from shift in-charge to operations manager and terminal head.

MAIN EXAMS

- IMU CET (Indian Maritime University Common Entrance Test)

5 Where to study

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTES

- Indian Maritime University (IMU) – MBA Port & Shipping Management — Chennai (HQ) & other campuses (<https://www.imu.edu.in/imunew/course-programs?course=19>)
- Indian Maritime University – Admissions (IMU CET) — All-India (<https://imu.edu.in/imuadmissions/>)
- Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) – Trade Logistics — New Delhi (<https://www.iift.ac.in/>)

PRIVATE INSTITUTES

- Narottam Morarjee Institute of Shipping (NMIS) — Mumbai (<https://www.nmis.co.in/>)
- CII Institute of Logistics — Chennai (<https://www.ciilogistics.com/>)

ONLINE

- IMU – MBA Maritime Management (Online) — Online (<https://www.imu.edu.in/imunew/course-programs?course=25>)
- स्किल इंडिया डिजिटल हब — Online (<https://www.skillindiadigital.gov.in/>)

FEES

Rajasthan is landlocked, so port education is mostly in coastal cities like Chennai, Mumbai and Kochi; but Rajasthan has inland container depots (ICDs) and logistics parks — e.g. at Jaipur (Kanakpura) — so cargo-terminal jobs are available in the state itself. IMU's MBA (Port & Shipping) costs roughly ₹2–4 lakh for the full course; private logistics diplomas cost ₹50,000–2 lakh. As a central government university, IMU's fees are relatively low.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- National Scholarship Portal (NSP) (<https://scholarships.gov.in/>)
- Buddy4Study – Logistics & Management Scholarships (<https://www.buddy4study.com/>)
- SJE Rajasthan Scholarships (<https://sje.rajasthan.gov.in/>)

6 What the work is like

WHERE YOU WORK

Major ports (JNPA/Nhava Sheva, Mundra, Kandla, Visakhapatnam), private container terminals, inland container depots (ICDs), logistics parks and shipping/freight companies.

WORK CULTURE

Ports run 24x7, so work is in shifts (including nights) with pressure driven by weather and vessel schedules. It is a responsibility- and leadership-heavy outdoor role where safety rules and discipline matter greatly. Women too are now moving into marine piloting and terminal operations.

WHO HIRES

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Adani Ports & SEZ (APSEZ) — Mundra and other terminals | • Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA/JNPT) and other major ports |
| • DP World, APM Terminals and other global container terminal operators | • Container Corporation of India (CONCOR) — ICDs and logistics parks |
| • Shipping lines, freight forwarders and CFS/warehousing companies | • Shipping Corporation of India and state maritime boards |

DEMAND (2026)

Thanks to the government's Sagarmala programme, growing foreign trade and containerisation, India's port capacity and cargo traffic are rising fast (major ports handled record cargo in FY 2025–26). This creates steady, growing demand for skilled operations managers at ports, container terminals and ICDs — even landlocked states like Rajasthan are seeing opportunities via logistics parks and inland depots.

7 Career growth

- 1 Port Operations Executive / Management Trainee
- 2 Shift In-charge / Assistant Operations Manager
- 3 Port Operations Manager
- 4 Terminal Manager / Port (Harbour) Head

EARNINGS

Starting	₹35,000–60,000/माह
Mid level	₹90,000–1,50,000/माह
Senior level	₹2,00,000–3,50,000+/माह

Per a 2026 career guide, a Port Operations Manager earns about ₹13–18 lakh/year and a Terminal Manager ₹15–22 lakh/year; Glassdoor/6figr show average port-operations pay reaching about ₹25 lakh/year. Dubai/Gulf packages run 20–30% higher and tax-free. Pay rises considerably with experience, port size and employer.

8 The good parts · The challenges**The good parts**

- Strong, well-paid career driven by growing sea trade and Sagarmala
- Exciting exposure to leadership, responsibility and global logistics
- Diverse opportunities at ports, terminals, ICDs and abroad (Gulf)

The challenges

- 24x7 shifts, night duty and weather/schedule pressure
- High-responsibility outdoor work with safety and accident risks
- Ports are mostly in coastal cities, so relocation from Rajasthan may be needed

9 Real-life journeys

Karan Adani

Managing Director, Adani Ports & SEZ (APSEZ)

After an economics degree from Purdue University, USA, Karan Adani joined Adani Ports in 2009 and began by learning port operations hands-on at Mundra. Progressing through various operational levels, he rose to become Managing Director of APSEZ — India's largest private port operator — and played a key role in developing Mundra into the country's largest commercial port. His journey shows that by learning port operations from the ground up and mastering processes and discipline, one can reach top leadership in this industry.

Adani Ports & SEZ · <https://www.adaniports.com/About-us/Board-of-Directors/Karan-Adani>

Reshma Nilofer Naha

India's first woman marine pilot, Kolkata Port (Hooghly River)

Chennai's Reshma Nilofer Naha joined Kolkata Port Trust as a trainee in 2011 and in 2018 became India's first woman marine pilot — the crucial port-operations role of safely guiding huge vessels from the open sea along the Hooghly River to Kolkata and Haldia ports. Holding an engineering degree in marine technology, she received the Nari Shakti Puraskar from the President in 2019. Her story inspires girls who want to build careers in the port and maritime operations field long treated as 'men's work'.

Wikipedia · https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reshma_Nilofer_Naha

10 If this route does not work out

One exam or one attempt does not close the door. The same subjects also open these routes — entry is usually easier, and you can return to this field later.

- Supply Chain Manager
- Inventory Manager
- Logistics Manager

11 Sources & further reading

1. Rajasthan Career Guidance – Port Operations Manager — <https://cg.rajasthan.gov.in/careerguidance/hi/career/%e0%a4%aa%e0%a5%8b%e0%a4%b0%e0%a5%8d%e0%a4%9f-%e0%a4%91%e0%a4%aa%e0%a4%b0%e0%a5%87%e0%a4%b6%e0%a4%82%e0%a4%b8-%e0%a4%ae%e0%a5%88%e0%a4%a8%e0%a5%87%e0%a4%9c%e0%a4%b0/>
2. Indian Maritime University – MBA Port & Shipping — <https://www.imu.edu.in/imunew/course-programs?course=19>
3. Sagarmala – Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways — <https://shipmin.gov.in/en/division/sagarmala>
4. IBEF – Indian Ports Industry Analysis — <https://www.ibef.org/industry/indian-ports-analysis-presentation>
5. Invest India – Ports & Shipping — <https://www.investindia.gov.in/sector/ports-shipping>



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