

3rd Sept 25

Mumbai-India

## Global Maritime Trade & Transport

### Captain Faces \$10,000 Warrant After Skipping Court Appearance



#### **The MSC Jubilee IX**

The captain of the containership MSC Jubilee IX is now facing a \$10,000 arrest warrant after he failed to appear for a pre-trial hearing in Washington State. The King County District Court issued the warrant on August 27 when both the captain and his lawyer did not attend.

The case involves Captain Oleh Danylin, a 48-year-old Ukrainian national, who was arrested on August 20 in Seattle on suspicion of operating his vessel while intoxicated. He was formally charged on August 25 after a Puget Sound Pilot reported that he showed signs of intoxication while the vessel was being moved from Everett anchorage to Terminal 5 in Seattle.

Court records show that the ship's first officer took over command along with the pilot, and together they navigated the containership to port without incident. The vessel was later detained until its operator, Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), appointed a replacement captain.

U.S. Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound was alerted by the pilot, and a boarding team, along with agents from the Coast Guard Investigative Service (CGIS), carried out a field sobriety test. According to court papers, the captain performed so poorly on the test that investigators stopped it for his safety.

He then took a chemical breath test, which showed a blood alcohol content of 0.24 percent. Two additional tests conducted the same afternoon by the Washington State Patrol registered 0.25 percent, more than six times the legal limit for commercial mariners.

When questioned, Danylin told investigators that he had not consumed alcohol in two months and said that the smell detected by the pilot was from mouthwash he had used 10 minutes earlier. Despite this explanation, the Coast Guard imposed a \$1,000 civil penalty.

The captain appeared in court on August 25, pleaded not guilty, and requested an interpreter. The judge ordered him to remain in Washington State, prohibited him from consuming alcohol, and directed that his passport remain in U.S. Coast Guard custody.

However, when Danylin did not return for his scheduled pre-trial hearing on August 27, the court issued the \$10,000 warrant for his arrest.

The MSC Jubilee IX is a 108,770-deadweight-ton vessel with capacity for 8,800 TEU containers. It is more than 1,000 feet long, 134 feet wide, and operates under the Liberian flag. After the incident, the vessel left Seattle on August 22 and was reported near Prince Rupert, Canada, later that week, according to MarineTraffic data. (Source: Marine Insight)

## EU mulls decade-long fuel tax holiday for shipping

European shipping companies look set to escape Brussels' green taxman for another decade, with a draft proposal circulating in the European Union this week showing negotiators want to postpone levies on marine fuels until at least 2035.

The European Commission had originally proposed back in 2021 to bring shipping and aviation into line with other sectors by gradually introducing EU-wide minimum taxes on CO2-emitting fuels. But after years of pushback, the latest compromise text – drafted by Denmark, which holds the bloc's rotating presidency – suggests the levies should be shelved until 2035, when Brussels will examine the possibility of finally taxing bunkers.

For now, only private yachts and the smallest aircraft may face any fuel taxes. Commercial aviation and shipping would maintain their longstanding exemption – an exemption the draft – seen by *Reuters* – says is needed to maintain the competitive position of European companies.

Negotiators will test the waters on the draft at a Brussels meeting on Friday. Unanimous approval is needed for any reform to pass. A final deal could be hammered out as early as November.



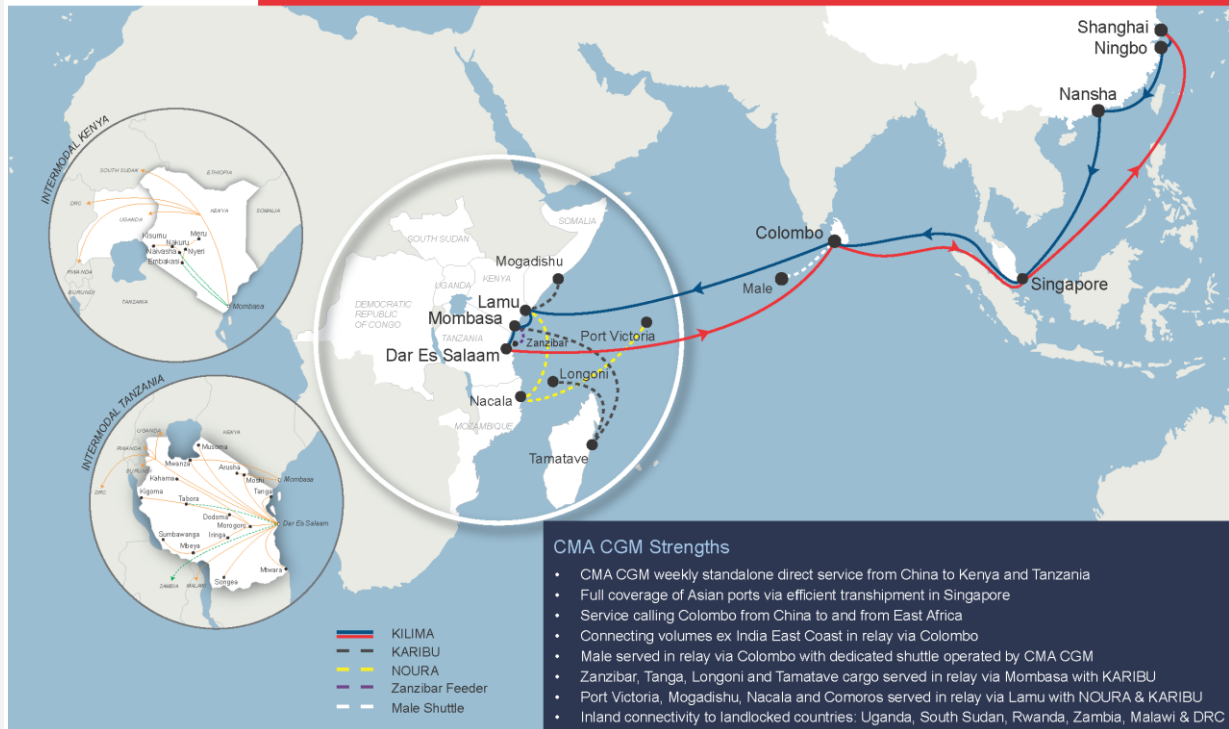
# Asian Maritime Industry

## CMA CGM launches Kilima service connecting Asia to Africa



### KILIMA

Connecting Far East to Kenya, Tanzania & Indian Ocean

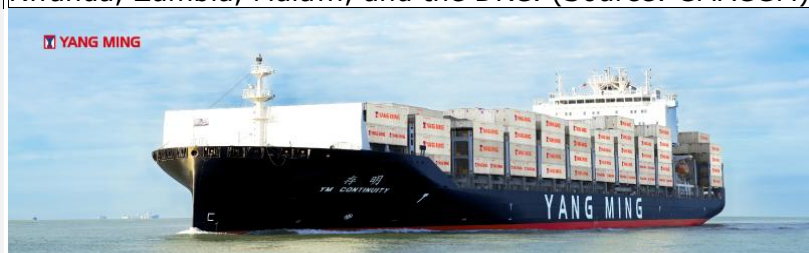


### Weekly standalone direct service between China, Kenya and Tanzania opens up wider network through Singapore and Colombo.

CMA CGM has announced the launch of its new service, KILIMA, beginning this August. The service aims to boost efficiency and improve the customer experience along key Asia-East Africa trade routes. KILIMA is a weekly standalone direct service from China to Kenya and Tanzania. The first call is set for 24 August in Mombasa.

Transshipment via Singapore will provide access to a broad range of Asian ports. The service also connects cargo from India's east coast through Colombo.

Colombo acts as a relay point for Male, with the Male Shuttle service's first departure on 25 August. Zanzibar, Tanga, Longoni, and Tamatave will be served via Mombasa through the KARIBU service. Port Victoria, Mogadishu, Nacala, and the Comoros will be reached via Lamu using NOURA and KARIBU. The network offers inland links to Uganda, South Sudan, Rwanda, Zambia, Malawi, and the DRC. (Source: CMA CGM)



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## Singapore Tanker and Greece bulker collide off Singapore



The Singapore-registered bunker tanker *Marine Dynamo* and the Malta-flagged supramax *Flag Gangos* collided on Monday about 8 km south of Tanah Merah.

The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) said the incident was reported at 9.25 hrs local time.

Both vessels remain stable, and the MPA has opened an investigation. One crewmember from the tanker sustained minor bruises and sprains and is being treated onboard. All other crew from both ships have been accounted for and are safe.

Light oil sheens were observed in the water near the *Marine Dynamo*. The tanker's master reported that marine gas oil (MGO) used for propulsion had spilled from a service tank located above the waterline. The MPA noted that MGO is a light fuel similar to diesel that evaporates and breaks down readily in the environment.

Patrol and spill response craft have been deployed to assist and disperse the sheens, supported by drone monitoring. The MPA has also issued a navigational broadcast to alert other vessels, adding that there is no impact on navigational safety.

The *Marine Dynamo* is an 8,300 dwt bunker tanker built in 2023, owned by Vitol Bunkers and chartered by Chevron. The 56,500 dwt *Flag Gangos* was built in 2013 and is owned by Greece's Golden Union. (Source: Splash)



# Asian Logistics Sector

## China launches durian express at Liaoning Port

Liaoning Port Group has launched its "durian express" shipping service and started construction of the Dalian Northeast Asia Fruit Transit Center. The development marks a step for northern Chinese ports in handling seaborne durian imports.

The new service reduces transit times to six to eight days, creating a direct maritime channel for tropical fruits from Southeast Asia to reach markets in Northeast and North China. "The service provides a high-speed, low-cost maritime channel for tropical fruits from Southeast Asia to reach markets in Northeast and North China," said Li Xiaoguang, general manager of Dalian Container Terminal Co.

Once completed, the transit center is expected to process about 10,000 TEUs of fresh durians from Southeast Asia annually. To support operations, Dalian Customs has adopted streamlined clearance procedures, reducing inspection times for fresh durians to one to two days. This is expected to lower spoilage rates during import handling.

Liaoning Port Group already operates the Dayaowan Cold Chain Logistics Park, the largest of its kind at a Chinese coastal port, with a storage capacity of 400,000 metric tons. The Dayaowan port processes more than 200,000 TEUs of refrigerated containers annually, moving over 2 million tons of cold chain cargo.

Dalian Port, under Liaoning Port Group, is also China's second-largest banana import hub, handling around 50,000 TEUs of bananas each year, representing more than 30% of the national market share.

According to Liu Bin, general manager of Liaoning Port Group, the Dalian initiative is expected to become the starting point for expanding a "fruit express" shipping network. The group also plans to develop a full industrial chain around fruit imports, covering ripening, processing, packaging, and distribution. Source: [ChinaDaily](#)



## 300,000 vapes seized Port Klang to be headed for Singapore



SINGAPORE - Malaysian Customs officers in Port Klang have uncovered a shipment of about 300,000 vapes and their components, believed to be bound for Singapore. A source close to the investigation told The Straits Times that the e-vaporisers had arrived from China.

When Customs officers opened the containers on July 30, they found cardboard boxes declared as furniture. The officers suspected the boxes actually contained illicit items like e-vaporisers because they were wrapped in green polythene bags – a modus operandi used by vape smuggling syndicates, the source said.

The e-vaporisers seized were branded as “Salthub”, without the health warnings that are required for devices intended for the Malaysian market. Vaping is legal in some states, including Selangor, where Port Klang is located. (Straits Times-Singapore)

## ONE rolls out new intermodal service in Sri Lanka

Ocean Network Express (ONE) announced the launch of a new intermodal service in Sri Lanka. According to the company, the service is designed to provide a “seamless and competitive multimodal solution from the inland origin point to destination, and vice versa.” The company stated:

“This value-added service will deliver the additional supply chain solution to our customers along with convenience and efficiency, and we will continue to expand our inland network in Sri Lanka in response to the customers’ requirements.” Ocean Network Express (ONE) is a global container shipping company headquartered in Singapore.

It was established in 2017 through the integration of the container shipping businesses of Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha, Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, and Nippon Yusen Kabushiki Kaisha. The company operates one of the largest fleets in the container shipping industry and provides services across major trade lanes worldwide.



### India deepens trade ties with Russia and China

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi met with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping during his first visit to China in seven years. The meeting took place at the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit, where the three leaders appeared publicly holding hands.

Xi addressed the summit with a speech criticizing "Cold War mentalities" and "bullying," without directly naming U.S. President Donald Trump. He later announced a "Global Governance Initiative," calling for a system that promotes integration rather than decoupling. The summit concluded with the Tianjin Declaration, where members opposed "unilateral coercive measures," including economic ones, that undermine international law and run counter to WTO and UN norms.

Modi also met separately with Xi, with both sides emphasizing that they are "partners," not "rivals." Modi and Putin shared a one-hour discussion during a car ride, after which Modi told Putin that "1.4 billion Indians are waiting with excitement" to welcome him later this year.

The meetings occurred as tensions between India and the U.S. increased. Trump recently imposed 50% tariffs on Indian goods, doubling previous rates in response to India's continued purchases of Russian oil. He has called U.S. trade with India "a totally one-sided disaster." Indian officials have signaled the country will not halt Russian oil imports.

Relations between India and China remain fragile despite the improved tone. Deadly border clashes in 2020 and ongoing disputes over technology and regional influence continue to shape the relationship. Analysts also suggest that the long-term partnership between China and Russia could face challenges due to their power imbalance, shared border concerns, and regional differences. Source: [AXIOS](#)

### India's exports to China increasingly driven by food and agricultural products

Expressing concern over declining support for exporters, economic think tank India's export basket to China is steadily tilting toward food and farm products, even as imports from Beijing remain dominated by industrial and consumer goods.

Crabs, prawns, capsicum and jojoba oil are among the fastest-growing non-petroleum shipments, an analysis shows. Animal, vegetable and food product exports together made up 22.1 percent of India's shipments to China in FY25, up sharply from 8.9 percent in FY19. Vegetable exports have tripled in share, rising from 4.3 percent to 13.1 percent, while animal products stood at 7.7 percent.

The growing farm tilt has come at the expense of some traditional categories. Textile and clothing exports shrank from 13 percent of exports in FY19 to just 3.9 percent in FY25. Chemicals, once India's single largest export to China with a 23 percent share, dropped below 14 percent. Metal and fuel shipments, which surged in earlier years, have also moderated.

## Japan leads imports of Taiwanese mangoes

Japan was the largest importer of Taiwanese mangoes in the first seven months of this year, purchasing more than 500 tons, according to Ministry of Agriculture data.

From January to July, Taiwan exported 1,510 tons of mangoes worth nearly US\$8.95 million, with Japan accounting for the largest share by both volume and value. Exports to Japan, including fresh, dried, and frozen mangoes as well as mango juice, totaled 515 tons valued at nearly US\$5.08 million.

The U.S. was the second-largest buyer, importing 463 tons at about US\$1.28 million, followed by South Korea with 141 tons worth nearly US\$1.1 million.

In 2024, Taiwan exported 3,658 tons of mango products valued at US\$16.18 million. Japan was the leading market in value at nearly US\$5.56 million, followed by South Korea with US\$4.72 million and Hong Kong with US\$2.34 million. By quantity, however, Hong Kong was the largest importer at 866 tons, followed by South Korea with 787 tons and Japan with 753 tons.

Separately, a Spanish food website highlighted Taiwan's fruit milk, particularly papaya milk, as a traditional and widely consumed beverage. Bubble tea, also known as pearl milk tea or boba tea, originated in Taiwan and has become globally popular. According to Directo al Paladar, while bubble tea revitalized Asia's tea culture with tapioca pearls and a chewy texture, Taiwan has an even more established beverage tradition with fruit milk, especially papaya milk.

Fruit milk combines tropical fruits with milk and is described as having a smooth texture and aroma. Varieties include papaya, mango, and other seasonal fruits. Directo al Paladar noted that fruit milk is considered more nutritious than bubble tea and referred to it as a "match made in heaven."

The report added that papaya milk is easy to prepare at home and that generations in Taiwan have grown up consuming it. Today, consumers can find mass-produced papaya milk products in addition to a wide range of recipes that use different fruits and flavors. For those who are not fans of bubble tea, fruit milk is presented as an alternative option.

Source: [Taipei Times](#)

## India ramps up rice exports to the Philippines.

India is pushing rice exports to the world's largest importer of the commodity -- the Philippines -- and to tap the opportunity, a large delegation of leading exporters will visit the Southeast Asian nation next month, an official said. The Philippines is an important market for India in agricultural products exports. In 2024, the Philippines imported agricultural goods worth about \$20 billion, with key imports including semi-milled rice, wheat and meslin, oilcake, food preparations, and palm oil.

India exported agricultural products worth \$413 million to the Philippines in 2024, accounting for about 2 per cent of the Philippines' total agricultural imports.

India's major exports to this market were bovine meat, groundnut, rice, and tobacco. "To build on this potential, a delegation of leading exporters of rice, and other key potential exports to Philippines like vegetables (onion and potato), groundnut, and meat visiting the Philippines in early September," the commerce ministry official said.



## Hong Kong exporters warn US tariffs to hurt sales during Thanksgiving, Christmas season

**Tariffs of 10 to 41 per cent took effect on August 1 in 70 jurisdictions, including Southeast Asia where city's exporters produce goods for US**

The latest round of "reciprocal" tariffs imposed by the United States has taken a toll on American importer confidence, prompting Hong Kong exporters to warn of weak sales and price inflation in two of the country's most important spending seasons, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Tariffs ranging from 10 to 41 per cent took effect on August 1 in 70 jurisdictions, including many in Southeast Asia where Hong Kong exporters produce goods for the US. Washington had a deal to extend the tariff truce with China for another 90 days from August 12.



Hong Kong-listed Mainland Headwear Holdings, one of the world's largest producers of caps and hats, said on Monday that it and its importers in the US had to share extra costs arising from tariffs, which resulted in a 20 to 35 per cent increase in marked prices.

"Importers' purchasing atmosphere is not good in the United States," chief operating officer Maggie Gu said.

"Since the August 1 tariffs became effective, the market expects Thanksgiving and Christmas will not be good as well and expects marked prices will be higher."

Shipments to the US for Thanksgiving and Christmas traditionally start in August.

(Source: South China Morning Post)

**Compiled by Dr. Sham Choughule through various sources for private circulation**



**Dr. Sham Choughule.** [Shamc2001@yahoo.co.in](mailto:Shamc2001@yahoo.co.in)

**Director (International Business, Logistics, and Maritime Transport )**

**Association for Global Economic Development-India**

Corporate Office: A/111, Mittal Court, Nariman Point, Mumbai - 400 021.

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