



Action Plan for Upgrading Existing Wooden Vessels at the Gateway of India

The *Action Plan for Upgrading Existing Wooden Vessels* by the Maharashtra Maritime Board focuses on replacing 90 wooden passenger boats at the Gateway of India with 45 modern steel, aluminium, or fibre vessels, each with double the capacity (150 passengers). The transition aims to enhance safety, operational efficiency, and sustainability. Implementation is phased: Phase 1 (0-6 months) covers technical assessment, shipyard evaluation, financial planning, and stakeholder consultations. Phase 2 (6 months-5 years) involves construction, phased deployment, and operator incentives. The plan promotes government support, PPP models, and annual reviews, ensuring a safer, more efficient coastal transport system.