

GLOBAL VOICE

Shipping trade in jitters on IMO expulsion

US & allies bid to globally isolate Moscow

Russia graced by 12 seas, 3 great oceans

- : R. Muthu Kumar :-

After having failed to stop Russia's advances against Ukraine through sanctions, the West has now embarked on a journey to try and isolate Russia in international fora. In this effort, the West recently prevented Russia's re-election to the Council of the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) for 2024-2025.

The International Maritime Organisation is an intergovernmental specialised agency of the United Nations. It deals with the fight against trade discrimination, and also adopts norms and standards for safety at sea and for the prevention of environmental pollution by ships. It monitors the freedom of navigation and the implementation of maritime conventions.

After losing its seat on the Executive Council of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Russia failed to secure re-

election to the executive council of IMO. The London-based IMO is responsible for regulating the safety of international shipping, preventing pollution and managing other issues. It unites 175 member states. Russia, a long-time member of the IMO Council, was left in lurch after a secret ballot to elect 40 supervisory members.

It is a frantic and politicised campaign by America to keep Russia out of a key body that governs sea traffic.

The West's attempts to isolate Russia have completely failed because President Vladimir Putin has a large number of different foreign partners, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said while addressing the upper house of the Russian parliament recently.

It is pertinent to note that Russia shapes their foreign policy agenda guided by their own priorities, respecting

the recognised norms of international laws all these years.

The largest country in the world is Russia with a total area of 17,098,242 sq kms.

Russia is graced by 12 seas and three great oceans. Russia is connected with the Atlantic ocean through the Baltic Sea in the west and the Black Sea in the south. The Arctic Ocean and its seas including the White, Barents, Kara, Laptev, East-Siberian Seas wash Russia's shores in the north. The Black Sea is as large inland sea situated at the southeastern extremity of Europe. It is bordered by Ukraine to the north, Russia to the northeast, Georgia to the east, Turkey to the south, and Bulgaria and Romania to the west.

India enjoys the status of Russia's closest friend. In October, a trial run of a ship was conducted between Chennai port in India and Vladivostok in Russia, in an effort to revive a trade route that



existed during the USSR period. According to Oleg N Avdeev, consul general of the Russian Federation in Chennai, the round trip took only 17 days. This used to take 35-40 days between Indian ports and St Petersburg via the Suez Canal. "We are in the advanced stage of the Chennai-Vladivostok sea route becoming a reality," Avdeev revealed. Russia always takes into account interests of partners who are ready to cooperate on the basis of mutual respect and respect for sovereign interests.

The move to expel Russia from the

International Maritime Organisation (IMO), which is a very important arm of the UN, can lead to major repercussions in world trade and also further hurt world peace.

As the biggest multilateral forum with an aim of maintaining global order, the UN should act neutrally. Russia is also a member of many international organisations, which of late have begun to impose sanctions in the bid to isolate and pressurise Moscow to tow the diktat of the West.

India as a peninsula, surrounded by seas on three sides, and Indian

fishermen face multiple natural challenges. It will indeed be immature to say that India is ignorant of its maritime responsibilities and issues relating to the oceans surrounding the nation.

Similarly Russia is indeed a superpower in nautical trade and lifestyle! Russia has the largest reserves of natural gas and the second largest coal reserves in the world. It also has the world's 8th largest oil reserves.

US and allies are unleashing the maritime strategy aimed at keeping Russia at bay! In the last two years, India has been exporting many consumer products to Russia and in return buying fuel. The inability to rein in Russia on the Ukraine is making the US and its allies desperate. Their desperation has been further enhanced by Russia gaining support from friendly countries such as India - Russia has given India the option of purchasing crude oil at special rates either in

rupee or rouble. This has shaken the US hegemony and dollar trade.

The US is now reluctant to help Ukraine and it's NATO bid has fizzled out. To divert attention, the US is shifting its focus to Israel! And also creating new hurdles for Russia. The expulsion from the IMO has infuriated Russia as its shipping industry faces a threat.

The expulsion from the international maritime system will surely infuriate Russia. Kremlin is expected to retaliate and the world is waiting with abject curiosity on what Russia will do to counter the latest move of US and its allies.

But one point that is very clearly is that right now the American global authority is in jitters!

The UN General Assembly also passed a resolution calling for a humanitarian ceasefire by a vote of 153 in favour, 10 against and 23 abstentions. The non-binding vote is largely symbolic but it serves as

an important barometer of world opinion. None of the major powers joined Israel and the United States in their opposition to the ceasefire.

Australia, Canada considered close ally of America voted in favour of a non-binding resolution at the United Nations.

Australia's Ambassador to the United Nations, James Larsen, explained the rationale behind voting in favour of an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza while also voting in favour of both the US and Austria's amendments that failed to pass as it did not obtain the required two-thirds majority.

The vote at the UN General Assembly represents a shift in Canada's long-standing position of siding with Israel on major resolutions at the international body and arguing the Jewish state is unfairly called out in global fora.

EU names 2 more terrorists for Israel attacks

The European Council has declared two senior members of Hamas's military wing, Al Qassam Brigades, to the EU terrorist list, as a part of a response to the movement's attack against Israel on October 7.

"The Council decided to add two individuals to the EU terrorist list. This decision comes as part of European Union's response to the threat posed by Hamas and its brutal and indiscriminate terrorist attacks in Israel on 7 October 2023. These sanctions are effective as of today," the Council announced in a statement.

The two individuals are Al Qassam Brigades Commander General Mohammed Deif and Deputy Commander Marwan Issa.

"Following their listing, the two individuals are subject



to the freezing of their funds and other financial assets in EU member states. It is also prohibited for EU operators to make funds and economic resources available to them," the Council's statement read.

On October 7, Hamas attacked Israel from the Gaza Strip with rockets and sent fighters across the border who killed and abducted hundreds. Israel launched retaliatory strikes the same day and ordered

a complete blockade of Gaza, followed by a ground invasion on October 27. The sides agreed to a one-week truce that ended last Friday, to exchange some of the prisoners and hostages.

Putin announces 2024 presidential bid

Russian President Vladimir Putin has announced that he will seek reelection. Should he win, it will be his fifth term as head of state.

The presidential election will be held between March 15 and March 17, 2024. The winner will be inaugurated in early May.

Putin made his remarks at a ceremony where he awarded Hero of Russia medals to servicemen who had taken part in the military operation against Ukraine.

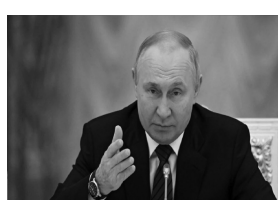
Hero of the Donetsk People's Republic Artiom Zhoga, who was recently named speaker of the Russian federal subject's parliament, asked if he would run in 2024 and he replied in the affirmative.

The footage from the ceremony shows Zhoga shaking hands with Putin and telling him that the entire Donbass would like him to participate in the election. "Thanks to your actions... we became free, we got the opportunity to choose... You are our president..."

We are your team, we need you, Russia needs you," he said.

Thanking him for the praise, Putin admitted that while he had "different thoughts at different times" on the subject, the time had come to make a final decision. "I am going to run for President of the Russian Federation," he said.

Zhoga is the commander of the republic's famous Sparta Battalion, which has been defending the DPR against Kiev's forces since 2014. He took over



the military post from his son Vladimir, who died at the age of 28 in 2022 while providing cover for the evacuation of civilians near the town of Volnovakha. For his heroic deeds, he was posthumously awarded the title "Hero of Russia."

New Argentina Prez takes oath behind closed doors

Argentine President Javier Milei took the oath of the new country's Government behind closed doors, *La Nacion* newspaper reported, adding that the number of ministries was reduced from 18 to nine.

Luis Caputo, a former Finance Minister and ex-head of the central bank under former Argentine President Mauricio Macri, became Economy Minister. The Ministry of Security was headed by Patricia Bullrich, who ran for the post of head of state but failed to make it to the second round of voting. She has already held the post of security minister in Macri's Government.

Luis Petri, who ran

for Vice President, became Minister of Defence. The Foreign Ministry was headed by Diana Mondino.

The post of Justice Minister was taken by Mariano Cuneo Libarona, a well-known lawyer who defended a number of politicians, as well as relatives of former President Carlos Menem, whom Milei considers the best head of state in the history of Argentina. Guillermo Ferraro became Minister of Infrastructure.

His department will unite a number of areas, including transport, public works, mining and communications.

The Ministry of Human Capital, which will



focus on education, culture, labor market and social policy, was headed by Sandra Pettovello.

The post of Minister of Health went to cardiologist Mario Russo, while Guillermo Francos held the post of Interior Minister.

The Cabinet of Ministers was headed by Nicolas Posse, who worked together with

Milei in Corporacion America, which, among other things, manages all the country's airports.

In addition, Milei appointed his sister, Karina, as head of his secretariat, despite the fact that a decree signed by Macri in 2018 prohibits the President's relatives from holding Government positions.

Italy habitation modules for US space station

Italy will participate in the project of US company Axiom Space to build a commercial space station by providing habitation modules, the official Chigi Palace said Wednesday.

"A segment of the new station will be built from habitation modules manufactured by Thales Alenia Space Italia, a world leader in these technologies," the statement read.

Italy will also participate in Axiom Space's Ax-3 mission to the International Space Station (ISS), scheduled for January 10, 2024, the statement said. Italian Air Force Colonel Walter Villadei will pilot the mission and spend 14 days aboard the space station, conducting

various scientific experiments. NASA has entrusted Axiom Space with the construction and management of the commercial space station, despite the fact that the ISS is expected to end its operational life by 2030, the statement said.

"At first, it will be added to the ISS, but it should then separate and operate autonomously, providing services to NASA in orbit and supporting commercial private activities in low orbit," the statement said.

Axiom Space is currently building the world's first commercial space station. According to the company's website, Thales Alenia Space has already begun constructing the primary structures of Axiom

Station's first module. Axiom Space is planning to launch the

first section of the station into low-Earth orbit in 2026.

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SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-auction sale notice for sale of immovable assets under the securitisation and reconstruction of financial assets and enforcement of security interest act, 2002 under rule 8(5) read with proviso to rule 9 (1) of the security interest (enforcement) rule, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower (s) and guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the authorised officer of Fullerton India Home Finance Company Ltd. (hereinafter referred to as "FIHFC"), on 28.06.2021, pursuant to the assignment of debt in favour of Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. By "FIHFC", the property is being sold on "as is where is", "as is what is", and "whatever there is" basis on 03-01-2024 between 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm with unlimited extension of 5 minutes, for recovery of Rs.12,24,562/- (Rupees twelve lakh twenty four thousand five hundred sixty two only) as of 08-12-2023 along with future applicable from 09-12-2023 until payment in full with cost and charges, under the **Loan Account No.604107510210985**, due to the Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd., secured creditor from Mr. Sulthan Mathew S. Mrs. Noorjahan S & M/s P.M.S. Store. The reserve price will be Rs.4,80,000/- (Rupees four lakh eighty thousand only) and the earnest money deposit will be Rs. 48,000/- (Rupees forty eight thousand only) & last date for submission of emd with KYCs is 02.01.2024 up to 6:00 p.m. (IST.)

Property Description :- All That Part And Parcel Of Land With Building At Dindigul District, Palani Registration District, Vedasandur Sub Registration District, Vedasandur Taluk, Koombar Village, Old Natham S.no. 782/2, Corresponding To New Natham S.no. 1034/19 Measuring East West 42 1/2 Feet On Both Sides And North South 54 Feet On Both Sides, In All Measuring 2295 Sq.ft. Along With The Rooftop Building Constructed Thereon In 763 1/4 Sq.ft. Bounded On: north:house Belongs To Abdul Hye And Abdul Rasheeth, East: Vacant Site And Compound Wall, South: Schedule A Item No.2 Property Owned By Farhana Begam, West: Vacant Site. The Total Extent Of 2295 Sq.ft Land With Residential Building With All The Usual Amenities Therein The Plot.

Public in general and borrowers in particular please take notice that if in case auction scheduled herein fails for any reason whatsoever then secured creditor may enforce security interest by way of sale through public auction, at the discretion of the secured creditor. In case of any clarification/requirement regarding assets under sale, bidder may contact to Mr. Vishal Adisheshan (+91 9941016600), Mr. Sriharan (+91 9738931789) Mr. Rajender Dahyia (+91 8448264515).

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Kotak Mahindra Bank website i.e. www.kotak.com/and/or/http://bank.auctions.in/

Place: Chennai Date: 15.12.2023 Authorised Officer For Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.