Cochin Shipyard Limited and the World Ocean Science Congress (conducted by Swadeshi Science Movement, Kerala chapter of Vijnana Bharati) jointly hosted a shipbuilding roundtable, today, at Kochi. The objective of the event was to bring together the major players of the industry to deliberate and arrive at a few implementable policy measures to be recommended to Government of India to achieve its vision of increasing the Indian share in the global shipbuilding from the present 0.4% to 2% in five years. There were 14 panel members consisting of classification societies, ship owners, large shipbuilders, small shipbuilders, bankers and design experts who deliberated on the various issues afflicting the industry. Apart from the panel members there were also selected invited audience consisting of indigenous suppliers, sub contractors and other ancillaries who play a major role in determining the competitiveness of the industry. In the free and fair discussions held during the meeting a number of points were discussed and deliberated and the necessity for a cooperative approach between the government, regulators, shipbuilders and ship owners to arrive at a solution for the industry was stressed. It is proposed to forward the implementable points that have been arrived at during today's deliberations to the GOI, Ministry of Shipping for taking appropriate policy decisions.

The Ministry of Shipping has communicated its plans to support the Shipbuilding Industry, which has been a key component of most major economies in the world. Many ancillary industries of the sector have evolved over time into major industrial houses in automobiles, Electronics etc. This can be a catalyst for the future of manufacturing industry and the ' Make in India" campaign.

The shipbuilding round table is an effort by Cochin Shipyard Limited and the World Ocean Science Congress (WOSC 2015) towards developing a road map for adopting the concept of Blue Economy in promoting the growth of national GDP through development of shipbuilding effectively with eco friendly approaches.

> V Kala Company Secretary Mob: 98957 05113