

Bureau of Port Security (BoPS)

Prelims: Current events of national and international importance

Why in News?

The Centre has recently constituted the Bureau of Port Security (BoPS).

- **Aim** - To oversee the **security of ships and port facilities** across the country.
- Modelled after the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS), it serves as the apex regulatory authority for maritime security.
- **Statutory Status** - BoPS is established under Section 13 of the **Merchant Shipping Act, 2025**.
- **Jurisdiction** - It functions under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW).
- **Scope** - The bureau provides a unified institutional framework for security oversight at all 12 major ports and over 200 non-major (state-owned and private) ports in India.
- **International Compliance** - It has the legal authority to enforce the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.
- **Organizational Structure - Leadership** - The BoPS will be headed by a Director General, who must be a senior Indian Police Service (IPS) officer (Pay Level-15).
- **Transition Period** - During the initial one-year transition phase (2025-2026), the Director General of Shipping (DGS) will hold additional charge as the DG of BoPS.
- **Core Functions - Cybersecurity** - A dedicated division will be created within BoPS to protect port IT and digital infrastructure from emerging threats.
- **Risk-Based Security** - Implementation of security measures in a graded manner, factoring in a port's location, trade volume, and vulnerability.
- **Intelligence Sharing** - BoPS ensures the timely collection, analysis, and exchange of security-related information among various stakeholders.
- **Training & Certification** - BoPS oversees the certification and licensing

of **Private Security Agencies (PSAs)** engaged in port security.

Reference

[The Hindu | Bureau of Port Security \(BoPS\)](#)

