

# Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways

## Major achievements for the month of June, 2023

### A. Projects and Schemes

- **Foundation stone of IWT terminal at Bogibeel**

The Inland Waterways Transport (IWT) **terminal at Bogibeel in Dibrugarh** by the bank of the River Brahmaputra (National Waterways 2) in Dibrugarh, Assam is to be developed at a cost of Rs. 46.60 crores. The Hon'ble Minister, PS&W laid the foundation stone for this project on 04.07.2023. Once developed, this terminal is likely to play a pivotal role in rejuvenating inland waterways transportation in the region for both cargo and passenger movement, paving the way for growth of trade & commerce in the NE region.

- **Construction of Strategic Container Shipment Hub at Galathea Bay, Great Nicobar initiated**

The Ministry has received significant interest from various players for the proposed 48,000-Crore trans-shipment port at Galathea Bay, located on the Great Nicobar Island in the Bay of Bengal. Amongst the 10 entities that submitted EoIs are Adani Ports and SEZ, JSW Infra, RVNL, Container Corporation, and Dutch dredging major Royal Boskalis. Other international players have also expressed interest in the project.

- **Indigenous Differential Global Navigation Satellite System (DGNSS) 'SAGAR SAMPARK'**

An indigenous **Differential Global Navigation Satellite System (DGNSS) 'SAGAR SAMPARK'** was inaugurated' by the Hon'ble Minister PS&W on 12.07.2023. DGNSS is a terrestrial based enhancement system which corrects the errors and inaccuracies in the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) allowing for more accurate positioning information. The DGNSS service will help mariners in safe navigation and will reduce the risk of collisions, groundings, and accidents in the port and harbour areas. This will lead to safe & efficient movement of vessels.

- **Light House Tourism facilities**

Tourism facilities have been developed at 21 lighthouses. **Tourism facilities developed at Dwarka, Veraval and Gopnath lighthouses** in Gujarat were inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister PS&W on 1st July, 2023. The average footfall of tourists at these lighthouses is 1.1 Lakh per month.

- **Indian Navy to Merchant Navy Transition**

The transition scheme for Indian Navy (IN) to Merchant Navy (MN) is completely operational on the website of the Directorate General of Shipping (DGS). All the modules related to transition scheme have been demonstrated to IN officials and SoP booklet has been shared with the IN. First batch of 4 Officers from IN have been issued with CDC.

## **B. Operations and Traffic**

- **Traffic at Ports**

The traffic handled at Major Ports during the period April'2023 to July'2023 has gone up from 260.38 million Tonnes last year to 266.51 million Tonnes this year (increase of 2.35% YoY)

- **Record with Highest Parcel load at SMP Kolkata**

On July 23, 2023, MT Sammar Sonnet berthed at Haldia, SMP Kolkata, carrying 41,972 MT of Diesel & Petrol for BPCL. This record-breaking parcel load surpasses the previous highest of 38,072 MT delivered by BPCL in January 2023.

## **C. Events and Milestones**

- **IMO Convention**

The 129th session of the IMO Council in which India is a member was held from 17.07.2023 to 21.07.2023 at IMO Hqs, London. The session was attended by Indian delegation led by Secretary(PS&W). India presented four papers in the session. The session was a landmark session in the sense that an enhanced IMO GHG Reduction Strategy was adopted. India's submission against Criminalization of Seafarers was supported by Bangladesh and Philippines and the International Transport Worker's Federation (ITF) and appreciated by the chair and the Secretary General, IMO. The Indian intervention resulted in the sensitization of all the Member States on Seafarers' rights. The team also laid the ground work for the election of India as a Member of the IMO council for the years 2024 and 2025.

- **Rescue of 20 Indians stranded in Netherlands after fire incident on Foreign ship**

21 Indian crew members were on board foreign vessel "Fremantle Highway" which caught fire on 25.07.2023 while the vessel was at Off the Netherland Coast. 20 crew members were rescued safely whereas one seafarer could not survive. After efforts of the DGS, The Indian Mission and Indian Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers (RPS), 13 seafarers reached India on 31.07.23 and 06 reached India on 02.08.23. Master of the vessel who was in the Hospital has been discharged. The mortal remains of the deceased seafarer have since been brought to India.

- **Signing of MoU between IWAI and Government of Bihar**

An MoU signed between IWAI and Department of Tourism, Government of Bihar on 24.07.2023 for operation & Management of Two IWAI Ro-Pax vessels M. V. Rajendra Prasad & M.V. Swami Paramhans.

- **Over Dimensional Cargo (ODC) through NWs for Numaligarh Refinery (NRL)**

The second consignment of Over Dimensional Cargo (ODC) as well as Over Weight Cargo (OWC) (700 MT) reached Near NRL Jetty (approx. 3 km from jetty) on 22.7.2023 and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> consignment as of ODC cargo (total of 3275.13 MT) meant for NRL Expansion Project reached IWAI's Pandu Multimodal Port on 28.7.2023 through IBP, NW-2 and NW-31.

- **National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC): Signing of MoU**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2023, the progress of the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC), Lothal was reviewed by Hon'ble Minister of PS&W, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal along with Chief Minister at Gandhinagar, Gujarat. During the meeting an MoU was also signed with Ministry of Defence (Indian Navy & Coast Guard) towards development of a Naval gallery: "*The Journey of Indian Navy & Coast Guard*" inside NMHC complex.

- **Curtain raiser of Global Maritime India Summit (GIMS), 2023**

The curtain raiser of **Global Maritime India Summit (GIMS), 2023** to be conducted in October 2023 was held in Mumbai on 18.07.2023. Hon'ble Minister PS&W participated in the event which was aimed at unlocking potential for new investment opportunities along with collaboration for knowledge and technology to enhance cooperation in trade and promote Ease of Doing Business (EODB). The focus areas of GIMS, 2023 are Ports of the Future; Decarbonisation; Coastal Shipping & Inland Waterways Transportation; Shipbuilding, Repair & Recycling; Finance, Insurance & Arbitration; Innovation & Technology; International cooperation, Maritime Safety & Security and Maritime Tourism.

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