

MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2021

Development of RO-Pax Jetty and allied infrastructure

In the month of April, 2021, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has given In-Principle approval for the project of development of RO-Pax Jetty and allied infrastructure connecting Kaninali in Bhadrak district and Talachua in Kendrapada District in the State of Odisha. Kaninali in Bhadrak District is situated on the left bank of the river Dhamara and Talachua in Kendrapada District is situated on the right bank of the river Dhamara. Hundreds of Passenger and local people depend upon these Ferry Ghats to cross the river (a distance of 7 KM) frequently through Government launches and Private Boats as there is no road connectivity. By providing such facilities people can access the Dhamara Port town which provides commercial/business activities to the local people in shortest time by reducing a road distance of 200 km from Talachua to Dhamara.

Port Performance

(i) Under the shadow of the second wave of COVID-19, impeding economic recovery, Cochin Port registered the total throughput of 2.59 MMT in April, 2021, a growth of 38.25% over April, 2020, when the Pandemic had seriously impacted the throughput. POL throughput registered 1.41 MMT and Container throughput 0.56 Lakh TEUs in April, 2021, growing respectively by 2.56% and 111% over April, 2020.

(ii) The total traffic handled at Jawahar Lal Nehru Port during the month of April, 2021 was 6.32 million tons as against 3.95 million tons in April, 2020, which is 60.00% higher than the total traffic over the same month of last year. The Port has handled 77,275 TEUS of ICD traffic from 512 Rakes during April, 2021. The overall improvement in rail handling at JN Port can be attributed to the efficiency and better coordination between Container Train Operators (both CONCOR and Private CTO's), Railways and the Port Terminals.

Inland Water Transport

(i) Notification of "Customs Area" for loading/unloading of Indian as well as Bangladesh Flag vessels/barges at Tribeni (Bandel) jetty was issued on March 16, 2021.

(ii) Transportation of Bhutan's cargo to Bangladesh using IBP route by loading at IWT terminal Dhubri continued with Bangladeshi vessels MV Shaha Madina 1 and MB Allahar Rahmat Exp-3 carrying 345 MT stone chips.

(iii) Following ODC movements took place during the month

(a) 350 MT of BHEL from Budge Budge Ro Ro Jetty-5, Kolkata to Mongla for Bangladesh – India Friendship Power Company (Private) Limited

(b) 396.80 MT from Kolkata to Kahelgaon through National Waterway No.-1 (under way).

Special dispensation to Vessels handling COVID related Cargo

In order to support the efforts in handling the crisis related COVID-19, Ministry directed all Major Ports to waive-off all charges levied by Major Port Trusts (including Vessel Related Charges and Store Charges etc.) and accord highest priority in the Berthing sequence to the vessels carrying consignments of Medical Grade – Oxygen, Oxygen Tanks, Oxygen Generators, Oxygen Concentrators etc. for next three months.

All Port Chairmen have been directed to personally supervise the logistic operations and also to strengthen the health infrastructure within the Port, by ensuring:

- (a) Vaccination of all Port Employees, including their kith and kin.
- (b) Vaccination Centre for Sea-farers and expenditure to be borne by the respective Shipping line.
- (c) Adequate stock of life saving drugs and injections at Port Hospitals
- (d) Improved ICU care facilities and to make available both ventilators and oxygen.
- (e) Enforcing Medical Protocol and preventive precautions such as Social Distancing, mask and sanitization at work place to keep employees and customers safe.