

MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING & WATERWAYS

MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 2023

The Hon'ble Prime Minister virtually flagged off the world's longest river cruise MV Ganga Vilas on 13.01.2023. The 51 days cruise from Varanasi to Dibrugarh is planned with visits to 50 tourist spots including World Heritage Sites, National Parks, River Ghats, and Major Cities like Patna in Bihar, Sahibganj in Jharkhand, Kolkata in West Bengal, Dhaka in Bangladesh and Guwahati in Assam. The ship follows sustainable principles at its core as it is equipped with pollution-free mechanisms and noise control technologies. The luxury cruise will cover a distance of more than 3,200 kms across 27 river systems in 5 states in India and Bangladesh. The expected date of arrival of MV Ganga Vilas in Dibrugarh is on 1st March, 2023. After the flagging off MV Ganga Vilas, Hon'ble Prime Minister also inaugurated the following:-

- 4 Community jetties in Uttar Pradesh and laid foundation stone of 5 Community Jetties in Bihar costing Rs. 18 Cr.
- Haldia Multi Modal Terminal (MMT) costing Rs. 481.37 Cr.
- Three major projects in Assam viz. the Foundation Stone for the Construction of Ship Repair Facility at Pandu Port costing Rs. 208 Cr, Elevated Road Connecting Pandu Port with NH-27 costing 180 Cr and Inauguration of Maritime Skill Development Centre for the North East at Guwahati.

The Cargo movement on National Waterways for April to December, 2022 was 91.60 million Tonnes (an increase of 19.5% as compared to Apr to Dec, 2021 of 76.65 million Tonnes).

The traffic handled at Major Ports during the period April, 2022 to January, 2023 has increased by 9.31% in the current financial year (FY 2022-23) as compared to the same period last year. It has gone up from 591.65 million Tonnes last year to 646.75 million Tonnes this year.

Hon'ble Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways (PS&W) inaugurated The National Logistics Portal (Marine) on 27.01.2023. The National Logistic Portal (Marine) – NLP, a project of national importance is a one-stop platform aimed at connecting all the stakeholders of the logistics community using IT, to improve efficiency and transparency by reducing costs and time delays. NLP will evolve into a single window for all trade processes of the logistics sector spread across the country covering all modes of transport in the waterways, roadways, and airways along with an E-market place to provide a seamless end-to-end logistic service coverage.

On 23.01.2023, the Hon'ble Minister for PS&W inaugurated Oil jetty no. 7 worth Rs.73.92 crore at Deendayal Port, Kandla. The Hon'ble Minister also laid the foundation

stone of three Projects namely Development of back up area from oil jetty 8 to 11 costing Rs. 98.41 crore; Development of 4 lane road costing Rs. 67 crore; Construction of dome shaped storage shed in cargo jetty costing Rs. 39.66 crore.

Ro-Ro service

Bahri Line, a national shipping carrier of Saudi Arabia, has commenced a new Ro-Ro service namely FE service (Far East Europe) from Kamarajar Port Limited (KPL) on 22.01.2023. The new Ro-Ro service directly connects China and India to Saudi Arabia and Ports in Europe (Germany, France and Belgium). It would be a great opportunity for the exporters to get direct Ro-Ro service from KPL to Saudi Arabia and major European countries and also for the importers to get direct Ro-Ro service from China to KPL.

Centre for Maritime Economy and Connectivity

A Memorandum of Agreement was signed between the Indian Ports Association (IPA) and Research & Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) on 19.01.2023 for setting up a Centre for Maritime Economy and Connectivity in the presence of the Hon'ble Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways.

Cruise Tourism

- M.V LE CHAMPLAIN, is the first French flag cruise ship called at Chennai Port after the pandemic with 118 crews and 108 Passengers from Trincomalee, Sri Lanka on 10.01.2023.
- The 4th cruise vessel of the season, “MS THE WORLD” - a private residential cruise ship called at New Mangalore Port on 13.1.2023 and stayed for 3 days. Various cultural programmes depicting the cultural heritage of the region were arranged at the port for the benefit of the passengers.

Tripartite Agreement for construction of Fishing vessels

Udupi Cochin Shipyard Limited (UCSL), a wholly owned subsidiary of Cochin Shipyard Limited, signed a tripartite agreement with the Department of Fisheries and five fishermen Self Help Group Societies from Kerala for construction and sale of five Deep-Sea Tuna Long Liner cum Gill Netter Fishing vessels.