MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 2020

Ports

- (i) The Kamarajar Port so as to attain competitiveness has extended concessions in Vessel Related Charges on transshipment container movement. As a result, the number of TEUs handled at the Container Terminal recorded an escalation of 233.83% during November, 2020 as compared to November, 2019. MV MSC Faith vessel having capacity of 14,336 TEUs called on Kamarajar Port on 11thNovember, 2020 is the largest Transshipment vessel that has ever called on any East Coast Port of India.
- (ii) A record dispatch of 4036 metric tonnes of fertilizer from New Mangalore Port was achieved in a single day on 3rd November, 2020. This has been achieved by streamlining delivery of cargo which has significantly contributed towards reduction in turnaround time of Truck/Trailer movement, fuel and manpower requirement, ultimately resulting in hasslefree clearing of cargo from the port.
- (iii) JNPT handled total traffic of 5.70 million tons during November-2020 as against 5.22 million tons recorded in November-2019, citing an increase of 9.04% of total traffic over the same month of last year. This month's traffic includes 0.59 million tons of Bulk Cargo as against 0.55 million tons in same month of last year.

Sagarmala

- (i) Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurated the Ro-Pax terminal at Hazira and flagged off the Ro-Pax ferry service between Hazira and Ghogha in Gujarat through video conferencing, on 08thNovember, 2020. Ro-Pax a new maritime connectivity has been established between Bhavnagar and Surat. The service between Hazira and Ghogha will shorten the journey from 10-12 hours to 3-4 hours. This will save time and expenses will also be reduced.
- (ii) IIT-M has developed a solar-powered unmanned autonomous survey craft to do hydrographic and oceanography survey in Indian ports and Inland waterways. The autonomous craft was developed by a research team at National Technology Centre for Ports, Waterways and Coasts (NTCPWC) a centre funded under Sagarmala Programme. They are in the process of commercializing the technology with the help of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways and IIT Chennai.

National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC)

Government of Gujarat has transferred 375 acres of land in village Saragvada on lease for 99 years at token rate to this Ministry, for which requisite land related clearances including environment clearance has been received. The Tripartite MOU between Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, Government of Gujarat and Indian Port Rail & Ropeway Corporation Limited for development, construction and operation & maintenance of National Maritime Heritage Complex at Lothal, Gujarat has been signed.

Shipping

India has become the fourth country in the world to have its independent Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) recognized by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) as part of the World Wide Radio Navigation System (WWRNS). IRNSS is a modern and more accurate navigation system, which facilitates at least 2500 merchant vessels, including small fishing vessels in Indian waters, to use the system within an area of 1500 Km. (approx.) from the Indian boundary. The other three countries that have its navigation system recognized by the IMO are the US (Global Position System – GPS), Russia (Global Navigation Satellite System – GLONASS) and China (BeiDou Navigation Satellite System – BDS).

Inland Water Transport

- (i) Bangladeshi vessel "M.V. Premier 6" sailing from Narayanganj, Bangladesh carrying 125 MT cement cargo reached Karimganj (Assam), India on 9th November, 2020, thereby successfully unloaded cargo at Karimganj and sailed back to Narayanganj, Bangladesh on 11th November, 2020. Bangladeshi vessels "MB Jannt" and "MB HaziBasir Mia" arrived at Karimganj, India on 07th November, 2020 and left Karimganj for Bangladesh on 17th November, 2020 carrying 100 MT and 125 MT limestone boulders, respectively.
- (ii) 2.45 lakh MT Cargo moved during the month of November, 2020 in Protocol on Inland Water Transit & Trade (PIWT&T) route.
- (iii) IWAI have started operations from Bandel jetty located at Tribeni, Hooghly under an agreement with West Bengal Power Development Corporation Ltd.
- (iv) The Navigational Lock at Farakka on National Waterway No.1 has been made operational from 12th November, 2020 and since then 21 barges have passed through the lockgate.
- (v) IWAI Ro-Ro Vessels namely M.V. Adi Shankara and M.V. C. V. Raman were handed over to KSINC (Kerala Shipping and Inland Navigation Corporation) for "Operation and Management" in NW-3.