

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
Major achievements for the month of December, 2021

Performance of Jawaharlal Nehru Port

The total traffic handled at Jawaharlal Nehru Port during the month of December, 2021 was 7.02 million tonnes, which is 10.13% higher against 6.37 million tonnes in December, 2020. This month's traffic includes 6.46 million tonnes of container traffic and 0.55 million tons of Bulk Cargo as against 5.66 million tonnes of container traffic and 0.71 million tons of bulk traffic in the corresponding month of last year. During April to December, 2021 a total of 4,177,211 TEUs, were handled which is 29.64% higher as against 3,222,093 TEUs during the same period of last year. JNPT handled 524,737 TEUs during the month of December, 2021 which is 14.09% higher than the same month of last year.

Hon'ble Minister visit to Mormugao Port

Hon'ble Minister for Ports Shipping and Waterways inaugurated the River Cruise Services at Mormugao Port on 11th December, 2021. The Services will immediately begin on all the proposed routes with double decker boats to give the tourists a complete experience of Goa's culture and history. This will be a common user's facility and any entrepreneur can venture start a new and similar type of Service from this berthing facility available in the Port. This opportunity of island cruising will add to the tourism potential of Goa. The Minister also visited the Port's operational areas including the Cruise Terminal Berth where International & Domestic Cruise Terminal is proposed to be set up and PPP Terminals operated by the South West Port Ltd (SWPL) and Adani Mormugao Port Trust Pvt. Ltd. (AMPTPL) to inspect the operations.

Conciliation and Settlement Committee

Commercial dispute resolution mechanism hitherto followed through Arbitration or Courts has been found to be exceedingly time consuming and financially burdensome on commercial entities like Major Ports beset with large number of disputes. An alternate dispute resolution mechanism was set up for Major Ports in October 2021 through appointment of a Conciliation & Settlement Committee (CSC) comprising of independent experts with innovative features like fee to conciliators based on success and specified time limit of 6 months for resolution of dispute. This dispute resolution mechanism will bring finality to a dispute as the parties reach an agreement and thus do not require to further approach arbitration or court forums.

The Committee took up the commercial dispute case of Chennai Port Trust and Chettinad Logistics Private Limited in October, 2021. The case had remained unresolved for more than 10 years with dispute arising in 2011, award by Arbitration Tribunal in 2013 and order by Hon'ble High Court in 2020. Both the parties reached a mutually acceptable settlement with the suggestion, aid and

advice of the Committee on December 6, 2021, signed the settlement Agreement on 27th December, 2021.

Tariff Guidelines, 2021 for the future PPP Concessionaires

Tariff Guidelines, 2021 for the future PPP Concessionaires was finalized and issued on 21st December, 2021 consequent upon the new Major Port Authorities Act, 2021 coming in vogue with effect from 3rd November, 2021. The Guidelines allow the concessionaires at Major Ports to set tariff as per market dynamics. Earlier, the tariff for PPP projects at Major Ports used to be regulated by Tariff Authority for Major Ports (TAMP) which set tariffs on the basis of the costs and certain efficiency parameters. This regulatory framework largely constrained PPP concessionaires at Major Ports to adjust to market conditions to attract cargo in a market where private players/PPP concessionaires at non-major ports are free to charge tariff as per market requirements. As a result, there has been diversion of cargo from Major Ports to other ports. With these guidelines, level playing field will be provided to the PPP concessionaires at Major Ports to compete with other ports to attract cargo. These guidelines should provide more conducive environment for promoting transshipment and coastal shipping. Higher cargo handling will also ensure better utilization of the capacity at Major Ports. With the flexibility of market linked tariff, the guidelines also simplify the tariff determination procedure.

Inauguration of Marine Workshop of IMU-Chennai

Hon'ble Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways inaugurated the Marine Workshop of IMU-Chennai Campus and dedicated the new buildings of Visakhapatnam campuses to the nation through virtual mode from Chennai on 23rd December, 2021.

Inland Water Transport Sector

An Agreement signed on 01st December, 2021 between IWAI & CICMT, IIT-Kharagpur for providing consultancy services to design quick mechanical opening mechanism for pontoons kulfi system. Agreement was also signed between IWAI & IIT-Roorkee for providing technical assistance for channel stabilization works for development of navigation channel with eco-friendly techniques at 17 locations on NW-1.

The cargo movement on National Waterways continue to be encouraging this year. 68.14 million ton has been achieved during April-November, 2021 as against 45.90 million ton last year during the same period recording 48.45% increase. For the first time, 143.54 MT of Cotton Bales were transported to Bangladesh through Indo-Bangladesh Protocol Route from Kolkata to Narayanganj. 1354 MT Sugar in 50 twenty foot container was also shipped from Kolkata to Pangaon through the same route during December, 2021. 73 Bangladeshi vessels loaded with 10873 MT Bhutanese stone aggregates sailed from Dhubri (India) to Chilmari (Bangladesh) during December, 2021.