

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

Monthly Summary for the month of December, 2024

A. Inter-Ministerial consultations prolonged matters:

1. Filling up of Certain Key posts

- **Directorate General of Shipping (DGS)**

A proposal was sent to DoPT for filling up the post of Additional Director General (one post) and Dy. Director General (one Post) on deputation basis through Central Staffing Scheme. The post of Additional Director General is vacant from February 17, 2024. These posts need to be filled up. This is affecting the working of DGS.

2. Inter-Ministerial issues pending with Department of Revenue (DoR)

A set of issues and proposals (numbering more than 50) have been under discussion with DoR relating to direct and indirect taxation in the maritime sector. Some of these need to be urgently taken forward in view of the implications for trade and EODB.

B. Other Matters/Significant Developments:

1. Acts and Bills

The Coastal Shipping Bill, 2024 and **The Merchant Shipping Bill, 2024** were introduced in Lok Sabha on December 2, 2024 and December 10, 2024 respectively.

2. Major Ports Capex Performance

Capital Expenditure of Major Ports under IEPR upto December 2024 is Rs. 2,509.71 Crore, i.e. **58.86 %** of the BE (Rs. 4,598.33 Crore). This is an improvement over same period last year which was Rs. 1957.55 Crore only.

3. 'Sagar Virasat Sangam': India Maritime Heritage Conclave-2024 (IMHC-2024)

MoPSW organized the country's first ever IMHC-2024 on December 11-12, 2024. This prestigious gathering celebrated India's illustrious maritime legacy and its profound contributions to global trade, culture, and innovation. Presided over by **Sh. Jagdeep Dhankhar, Hon'ble Vice President of India**, the conclave brought together Ministers, experts, and dignitaries from around the world, serving as a vibrant platform for dialogue and collaboration, reaffirming India's enduring maritime heritage and its pivotal role in shaping the global maritime narrative.

4. 'Jal Vahak': Inland Waterways Cargo Promotion Scheme

Inland Waterways Cargo Promotion Scheme Jal Vahak was launched on December 15, 2024 by **Hon'ble Minister (PSW)** for providing 35% incentive to promote the utilization of inland waterways transport sector by cargo owners and for establishing scheduled service for cargo movement on NW-1 and NW -2 and NW-16 via Indo Bangladesh Protocol (IBP). This scheme is expected to divert 800 million tonnes Km cargo on Inland Water Transport (IWT) mode, which is nearly 17% of the current cargo of 4700 million tonnes Km on NWs.
