

# Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

## Monthly Summary for the month of July, 2024

### A. Significant Achievements

#### 1. Exceptional Bravery at Sea Award of IMO

The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has recognized the exceptional bravery and courage of Indian seafarers in its 2024 awards for Bravery at Sea. The IMO Council, in its proceedings on July 10, 2024, honoured Captain Avhilash Rawat and the crew of the oil tanker “Marlin Luanda” for their extraordinary bravery, leadership, and determination. The crew's efforts, along with the crucial support from assisting naval forces, were pivotal in ensuring the safety of the crew, saving the ship, and preventing a potential environmental disaster.

#### 2. First Mother Ship at Vizhinjam- Container Transshipment Port

The Hon'ble Minister of PSW received the first mother ship ‘MV San Fernando’ marking the beginning of operations at the container transshipment port in Vizhinjam, Kerala on July 12, 2024. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala, Shri Pinari Vijayan was also present on the occasion.

### B. Projects and Schemes

#### 1. Project Completed

The project “**Development of RORO facilities for propylene and other cargo handling**” worth Rs.12.46 crore has been completed by the Cochin Port Authority (CoPA). The project is aimed at enabling a more sustainable and eco-friendly method for coastal shipping and cargo handling activities.

#### 2. Projects sanctioned/awarded

- The project for “**Development of Ro-pax Jetty and allied infrastructure connecting Kaninali in Bhadrak District & Talachua in Kendrapada District, Odisha**” worth Rs. 116.09 crore has been awarded. The project is aimed at improving connectivity between Kaninali and Talachua through urban waterways.
- Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority’s (JNPA) SFC proposal for “**Development of Export-Import cum Domestic Agriculture commodity-based processing & Storage Facility at JNPA on PPP mode**” with a total estimated project cost of Rs 284.19 crore has been approved. This project will boost India's export/import potential and reduce wastages in agri-processing as well as bring down the logistics cost on agri-commodities.
- Visakhapatnam Port Authority's (VPA) SFC proposal for “**Upgradation of existing 80 bedded Golden Jubilee Hospital to a 300 bedded Multi-Disciplinary Super Specialty Hospital through PPP mode at Visakhapatnam Port on DBFOT basis**” with a total estimated Project cost of Rs 222.43 crore has been approved.

### **3. Valorization of Dredged Sediments**

The Ministry has approved a research proposal on valorization of dredged sediments. The project, sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 46.47 lakhs will be implemented over a duration of three years by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay. The primary objective of this research is to create value from dredged sediments by converting them into aggregates suitable for various construction fields. This innovative approach aims to transform dredged sediment, typically seen as waste, into a valuable resource, thus contributing to sustainable development and environmental conservation.

### **4. State Maritime & Waterways Transport Committee (SMWTC)**

SMWTCs which constitute a new institutional mechanism for coordinating state level issues have been established in 21 States as against 12 states reported in the month of July, 2024. A meeting in this regard was also chaired by me on July 16, 2024 to review progress of constitution of SMWTCs in States/UTs.

### **5. National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC)**

The physical and financial progress of the project is 55.73% (54.40% until July 2024) and 39.70% (37.96% until July 2024) respectively. The work is continuously being followed up and monitored by me, through weekly review meetings. The Govt. of Gujarat is developing the requisite external infrastructure of the project.

- Infrastructure for water supply line and water storage tank of 10 lakh litres, new 4 lane road of 1.58 kms from Saragwala village till NMHC project site, power transmission lines laying and installation of GIS substation has been completed, 4 laning of road from SH1 till Saragwala village and road connectivity from Saragwala village to Ahmedabad Dholera SIR Expressway is under progress.
- All the tender packages for development of 6 galleries in the NMHC museum have been awarded. Tender for Phase 1B of the project has been floated.
- Advance copy of Note for Cabinet is under submission to PMO/Cabinet Sectt. for kind consideration and further directions.

## **C. Operations, Cargo, and Traffic**

### **1. Operational Achievements of Major Ports:**

- The traffic handled at Major Ports during the period April 2024 to July 2024 has increased by 4.43 % in the current financial year (FY 2024-25) as compared to the same period last year. It has gone up from 266.708 MMT last year to 278.514 MMT this year.
- JNPA handled 603,219 TEUs in July 2024 which is all time monthly highest container traffic at port surpassing the previous highest of 594,793 TEUs handled in March 2024.
- On July 1, 2024, JNPA was honoured with the prestigious best Port of the year (Containerized) award at the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual India Maritime Awards 2024.

- On July 4, 2024, the highest number of EXIM containers were handled in a single voyage at PICT berth of Paradip Port Authority (PPA). A total of 1027 TEUs handled, surpassing the previous highest of 806 TEUs.
- On July 8, 2024, PPA created new record by handling a CAPE size vessel A/c TSL, with the highest ever parcel size of 1,49,496 MT of imported coal at its KICT Berth.
- V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority (VOCPA) created a new record by handling 26,185 MT of cargo in a single day at non-mechanized bulk cargo berth VOC-3/4 on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024, surpassing the previous record of 25,900 MT handled on July 11, 2024.
- On July 15, 2024, the 'BMCT Out Gate' at the JNPA centralized parking plaza was inaugurated. This new out gate allows for direct trailer entry to the BMCT terminal, significantly enhancing operational efficiency. JNPA's project of 'Vision X' aims at creating an efficient, and smart transportation ecosystem through advanced geo-fencing, real-time tracking, and automated traffic management solutions.
- Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Authority (SMPA), Kolkata, in alliance with Pacific International Lines (PIL), a leader in feeder and container services for over three decades, announced the inauguration of the China - Calcutta Service (CCS) at the Kolkata Dock System (KDS) on July 18, 2024.
- On July 24, 2024, PPA has done 1<sup>st</sup> ship-to-ship special grade diesel oil transfer at its North Oil Jetty inside harbour area to save on shipping costs as the entity looks at innovative ways as a pivot to boost business.
- VPA has set a new record by successfully handling the largest cargo vessel ever to dock at the VGCB berth. The MV Huahine, arrived on July 25, 2024 from Owendo Port in West Africa with 199900 MT of manganese ore.
- The new BIGEX-2 service by CMA CGM (A global player in sea, land, air, and logistics solutions) started calling at New Mangalore Port Authority (NMPA) which is expected to strengthen regional trade with Persian Gulf & Red Sea.
- PPA clocked an unprecedented 41.12 MMT of cargo handling within the first 100 days of the fiscal year 2024-25.

## **2. Capital Expenditure:**

Capital Expenditure of Major Ports under IEBR upto July 2024 is Rs. 1754.70 crore, i.e. 37.73 % of the BE (Rs. 4650.07 crore). This is an improvement over same period last year which was Rs. 581.82 crore only.

## **3. Inland Waterways**

- 3.76 Lakh ton cargo moved on Indo Bangladesh Protocol route during the month of July 2024.
- During the period "April, 2024 to July, 2024" cargo of 44.46 MMT recorded through Waterways as compared to 43.48 MMT during same period last year i.e. an increase of 2.25%.
- To give further boost to IWT, IWAI approved draft regulations for providing "No Objection Certificate" (NOC) for development of "Inland Waterways Terminal(s)" on or along National Waterways. This will enable development of network of IWT Terminals for commercial use with participation of private sector, public sector

entities and enhance the modal share of cargo transportation through waterways in the overall transport chain.

- In accordance with the commitment of the Government to reduce carbon footprints, first hydrogen fuel vessel has been introduced in Varanasi. IWAI is in the process of procuring more such vessels.
- A stakeholders' conference on IWT development of North-East region was organized at Chumkedima, Nagaland on July 15, 2024 in the presence of Hon'ble Chief Minister of Nagaland and Hon'ble Minister of PSW.

#### **4. Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) and subsidiaries**

- On July 4, 2024, Udipi CSL launched 70T Bollard Pull Tug viz., MOGRA STAR being built for Polestar Maritime Limited.
- On July 15, 2024, Hooghly CSL bagged an order for construction of 2 nos. of ASD Bollard Pull Tugs from Industrial Handling Private Limited.
- On July 20, 2024, CSL delivered one Electric Hybrid 100 Pax Water Metro boat to Kochi Metro.
- On July 23, 2024 Keel laying of 2 Electric Hybrid Catamaran Vessels being built for IWAI was held at Hooghly CSL.

#### **5. Shipping Corporation of India (SCI)**

- "GANGA LPG" (2000 LPG Cylinder Carrier) built by Goa Shipyard Ltd. delivered to Lakshdweep Administration. SCI served as the technical advisor for the same.
- SCI is in advanced stage of registering a company in GIFT city by the name of "SCI Bharat IFSC Limited." The MCA has already approved the name of the company.

### **D. Events and Campaigns**

#### **1. Pre-Budget Meeting with Stakeholders of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways**

In preparation for the budget 2024-25, Hon'ble Minister of PSW held a productive pre-budget meeting with various stakeholders on July 1, 2024 in New Delhi. The meeting aimed to facilitate open discussions and gather valuable insights from experts and stakeholders across different sectors. Hon'ble Minister highlighted the government's commitment to fostering a collaborative environment, encouraging stakeholders to share their suggestions and ideas for the nation building. The Ministry is committed to developing sustainable, world-class maritime and inland waterways infrastructure to enhance EXIM trade and support economic growth and spearheading several strategic initiatives to strengthen India's maritime sector, focusing on sustainable and world-class infrastructure. Key initiatives include the Sagarmala Programme, with projects worth Rs. 5100 crore, and the Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Policy supporting shipyards. The Harit Nauka initiative will promote green fuel transportation in inland waterways, while the Maritime Development Fund (MDF) and Ship Owning and Leasing Entity (SOLE) will support financing to boost ship acquisition and Indian ownership. Major projects such as VadHAVAN Mega Transshipment Port and Galathea Bay Transshipment Port are set to generate significant employment and increase handling capacities. The Cruise

India Mission seeks to triple cruise traffic, and Odisha Waterway Development is exploring the feasibility to transport cargo through NW5. Policy reforms in tax and GST, support for shipbuilding, and green initiatives underscore the Ministry's commitment to economic growth and environmental sustainability, enhancing India's competitiveness in the maritime sector.

## **2. Revitalizing Indian Ship Building Industry**

The Ministry successfully organized a pivotal workshop on the **Revitalizing Indian Ship Building Industry** on July 4, 2024 in New Delhi. The event brought together key stakeholders, representatives from various government ministries, departments, shipping operators and PSU/ private sector shipyards to discuss strategies for revitalizing the shipbuilding and repair ecosystem within India and aligning it with India's ambitious **Maritime India Vision 2030 (MIV 2030) and Amrit Kaal Vision 2047**. The workshop was attended by more than 100 participants from 50 organisations including various government ministries, departments, shipping operators and PSU/ private sector shipyards. The idea of the event was to bring the demand generators and the suppliers/builders onto a collaborative common platform to formulate ideas to ensure that the large demand from the Indian shipping industry may become opportunities for the Indian shipbuilding industry. This strategic vision reflects the Government's commitment to transforming India into a global maritime powerhouse. This ambitious goal is part of a comprehensive strategy to enhance the country's maritime infrastructure and capabilities.

## **3. IMO Council Session in London**

The 132<sup>nd</sup> session of the IMO Council, which was held on July 08 -12, 2024 to address various critical issues and proposals for the future of global maritime operations. A High-level Indian delegation, led by me participated in the session in London. India, an elected member of the IMO Council in the category of countries with the largest interest in international seaborne trade, emphasized the urgent issue of seafarer abandonment. The delegation pointed out that despite efforts, there are currently 44 active cases involving 292 Indian seafarers. India's strong stance on the need for effective measures and oversight to resolve such issues was well received. The Indian delegation also addressed concerns over disruptions in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, and adjoining areas, which have been impacting shipping and trade logistics. Highlighting India's commitment to maritime safety and security, the delegation cited two significant incidents where the Indian Navy successfully intervened. These included the rescue of a Marshall Island-flagged crude oil carrier, MV Marlyn Luanda, and the interception of the vessel MV Ruen off the coast of Somalia, ensuring the safety of crew members and handling piracy threats effectively.

## **4. Lighthouse Tourism in India**

The Hon'ble Minister of PSW chaired a Stakeholders Meeting to boost lighthouse tourism in Vizhinjam, Kerala on July 11, 2024 organised by the Directorate General

of Lighthouses and Lightships, an organisation under the Ministry. The meet was aimed at conceptualising & strategizing to showcase the unique tourism potential of lighthouses as spots of historical, cultural and scenic confluence. Hon'ble Minister appraised that "More than 500,000 tourists visited the lighthouses between April and June, 2024, validating the vision of transforming these iconic maritime structures into vibrant tourist's hotspots as envisioned by Hon'ble Prime Minister" and that the new light and sound show in Vizhinjam as well as other facilities for tourists will be developed considering every aspect of convenience, especially for the elderly and especially abled people.

5. On July 9, 2024, Chennai Port signed an MoU with Indian Coast Guard (ICG) for developing and upgrading marine infrastructure for the ICG. This development will boost capacity & efficiency, ensuring smoother operations for vessels. This will enable handling of higher capacity ICG vessels.
6. The Maritime Security Brief held on July 30, 2024 in Mumbai by the Directorate General of Shipping (DGS), Information Fusion Centre- Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR), and the Indian Navy, addressed the complexities of maritime security. The sessions focused on evolving maritime threats, the imperative for robust international cooperation, and the deployment of naval assets in high-risk areas like the Gulf of Aden. Attendees included representatives from various maritime sectors. Key discussions revolved around strategies to combat piracy, enhance maritime awareness, and respond to geopolitical dynamics affecting maritime operations, culminating in actionable recommendations for strengthening maritime safety and resilience.

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