

# Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways

## Monthly Summary for the month of November, 2024

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### A. Inter-Ministerial consultations prolonged matters:

#### 1. Filling up of Certain Key posts

- **Major Ports**

The posts of Chairperson, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority and Chairperson, Mumbai Port Authority are vacant and need to be filled up. The posts of Deputy Chairperson of the Port Authorities of Cochin and Visakhapatnam are also vacant. The process in the case of the Chairpersons began last year and is yet to be completed.

- **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.

#### 2. Waiver of GST on Marine Aids

Under the Marine Aids to Navigation Act, 2021, GST on Marine Aids to Navigation Dues (erstwhile Light Dues) has been implemented w.e.f. September 01, 2022. However, GST could not be collected for a period from July 01, 2017 to August 31, 2022 as there were no statutory provisions relating to GST in the old Act. During this period, Rs. 17,22,45,60,181/- was collected as light dues and Rs. 2,62,74,75,282/- has been imposed as GST. The matter is being pursued with Department of Revenue for waiver of GST and penalty thereon for the said period.

### B. Other Matters/Significant Developments:

#### 1. Acts and Bills

The Merchant Shipping Bill 2024 was approved by the Union Cabinet on November 06, 2024.

#### 2. Major Ports

Capital Expenditure of Major Ports under IEBR upto November 2024 is Rs. 2370.61 Crore, i.e. 51% of the BE (Rs. 4650.07 Crore). This is an improvement over same period last year which was Rs. 1716.77 Crore only.

#### 3. Cargo Promotion Scheme

Cargo Promotion Scheme for Inland Waterways Transport (IWT) has been approved by Hon'ble Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways on November 12, 2024. This scheme will be implemented at a cost of Rs. 95.42 Crore, for a period of 3 years (i.e. 2024-25, 2025-26, 2026-27), with an aim to promote/encourage cargo movement through National Waterway-1 (NW-1), NW-2 and NW-16.

#### 4. Sagarmanthan: The Great Oceans Dialogue

MoPS&W in collaboration with Observers Research Foundation (ORF) organized "**Sagarmanthan: The Great Oceans Dialogue**" on November 18-19, 2024 in New Delhi. The Dialogue featured participants from 60 countries across the globe with more than 1700 participants including ministers, former heads of state and government, journalists, and experts.

#### 5. Meeting of Joint Committee on Transport with Malta

The first Meeting of Joint Committee on Transport was held virtually with Malta on November, 26, 2024.

#### 6. Shipping Corporation of India (SCI)

On November 21, 2024 - SCI was awarded the prestigious '**Shipping Company of the Year (Indian)**' award (Diamond Category Winner) at the 11th **Samudra Manthan Awards 2024**.

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