



THE SAGARMALA POST

MARCH-APRIL 2021



SPOTLIGHT



EVENTS DETOUR



MARITIME GLORY

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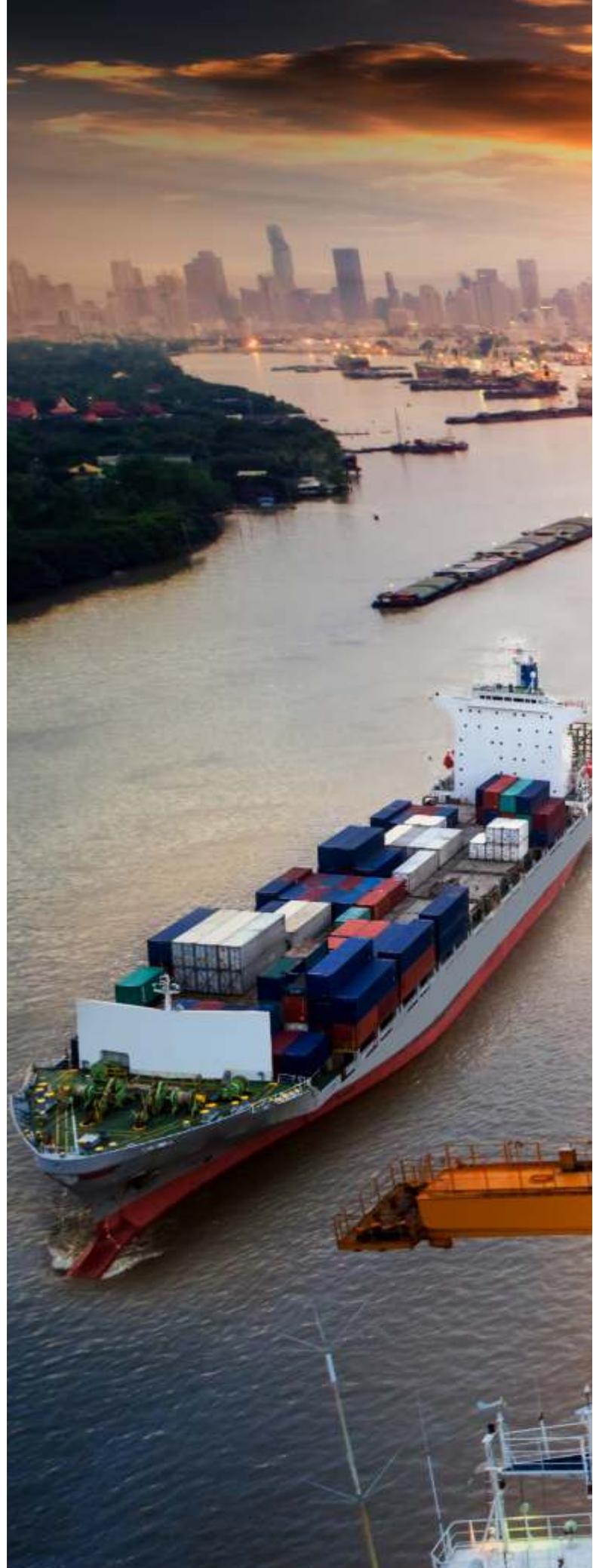
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From the **SECRETARY'S DESK**



Sanjeev Ranjan

Secretary, Ministry of Ports, Shipping
and Waterways

Greetings to all our dear readers!

Fulfilling Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji's vision of leading 'Blue Revolution' in India, Ministry has made great efforts towards boosting the waterways connectivity along the Indian Coastlines. Moving in this direction, Ministry accorded administrative approval with a sanction amount of Rs 50.30 crore for developing all-weather ROPAX (Roll-on/Roll-off Passenger) Jetty and allied infrastructure connecting Kaninali in Bhadrak district and Talachua in Kendrapara district in Odisha. Water transportation has the utmost potential of unfolding a 'Transport Revolution' in India. This kind of transportation empowers our industry partners and maritime stakeholders to not only save huge logistics cost but also ensures reduced turnaround time for the delivery of the product/service.

In this direction, Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways flagged off Cruise service from Hazira Port of Surat to Diu. These similar initiatives will facilitate huge potential for the cruise tourism industry along Indian coastline. Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated 'Maritime India Summit 2021'. The virtual summit witnessed participation from more than 1.7 lakh registered participants from more than 100 nations. In the three-day summit, we had Ministers from 8 nations, more than 50 global CEOs and more than 160 speakers which includes 115 international speakers from 24 nations. The summit has played an important role in further bolstering the investments in the maritime sector with the vision of 'Make in India' and Aatmanirbhar Bharat'.

Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways is taking all the

right steps towards countering the COVID 19 pandemic through appropriate and innovative measures. A series of administrative decision was taken towards boosting

the oxygen availability in the country. That included decisions like all Major Ports waived-off all charges for ships carrying oxygen and oxygen related equipment cargo that were being shipped domestically and arriving from our foreign partners and nation. Highest priority was accorded to the berthing and sequencing of the vessels arriving at the port and oxygen cargo consignments were cleared on top priority. Ports had also formed a green channel that ensured smooth transportation of cargoes

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways was working effortlessly towards bringing progressive policy changes to give India a leadership place in the global maritime community. Maritime Community including Ports and Seafarers have played an important role in this COVID-19 pandemic.

I salute our Corona Heroes for successfully managing the distribution of medical oxygen consignment to hospitals in various Indian states. As we live today in crucial times, I pray for the safety and security of our countrymen. Our combined efforts against COVID-19 will lead to our victory against the Coronavirus.

Be Safe and Follow COVID Appropriate Behaviour!





VIRTUALLY INAUGURATED BY HON'BLE PRIME MINISTER SHRI NARENDRA MODI



The grandest event in the maritime sector unfolds!



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated 'Maritime India Summit 2021' in the presence of Union Minister of State (I/C) for Ports, Shipping And Waterways, Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of Transport of Denmark Mr Benny Englebrecht, Chief Ministers of Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh, Shri Vijay Rupani Ji and Shri Y.S. Jaganmohan Reddy Ji, Union Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan Ji and other eminent dignitaries etc.

More than 1.7 lakh registered participants from

more than 100 nations participated in the mega event

In his welcome address, Shri Mansukh Mandaviya said, "Maritime India Summit is one of the biggest virtual summits in the world, with the participation of more than 1.7 lakh registered participants from more than 100 nations. In this three-day summit, we will have ministers from 8 nations, more than 50 global CEOs and more than 160 speakers which includes 115 international speakers from 24 nations."

Talking to all stakeholders in the sectors and investors from across the globe, Shri Mandaviya said that Government of India was ready for facilitating and grounding the investments in the maritime sector and our role in the vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'. He released an e-book 'Maritime India Vision-2030' that is aimed at making Indian Maritime Industry on par with top global benchmarks in next 10 years.

Prime Minister also unveiled the e-plaque of 'Sagar-Manthan': Mercantile Maritime Domain Awareness Centre (MM-DAC). It is an



information system for enhancing maritime safety, search and rescue capabilities, security, and marine environment protection.

Hon'ble Prime Minister invited all the nation to be the part of **India's growth trajectory**. India is very serious about growing in the maritime sector and emerging as a leading Blue Economy of the world, he said.

Shri Narendra Modi Ji informed that capacity of major ports has increased from 870 million tons in 2014 to 1550 million tons. Indian ports now have measures such as: Direct port Delivery, Direct Port Entry, and an upgraded Port Community System (PCS) for easy data flow. Our ports have reduced waiting time for inbound and outbound cargo. He also informed that mega ports with world class infrastructure are being developed in Vadhavan, Paradip and Deendayal Port in Kandla.

The Prime Minister concluded while inviting the global investors, "India's long coastline awaits you. India's hardworking people await you. Invest in our ports. Invest in our people. Let India be your preferred trade destination. Let Indian ports be your port of call for trade and commerce."

Maritime India Summit-2021 celebrated 'Chabahar Day'



Chabahar Day was commemorated on the sidelines of the Second edition of International Maritime Summit-2021 in the virtual format. The event was attended and addressed by Mr. Qudratullah Zaki, Minister of Transport, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, Mr. Suren Papikyan, Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructures, Republic of Armenia, Mohammad Eslami, Minister of Roads and Urban Development, Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr. Berik Kamaliev, Deputy Industry and Infrastructure Development Minister, Republic of Kazakhstan, Mr. Oleg N Ryazantsev, Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade, Russian Federation and Mr. Choriyeu Jasurbek Ergashevich, Deputy Minister of Transport, Republic of Uzbekistan. Minister of External Affairs, Dr. S. Jaishankar, addressed the session.

The meeting was chaired by Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways and Minister of State for Chemical & Fertilizers who also delivered the keynote address. Secretary (Ports, Shipping and

Waterways), Shri Sanjeev Ranjan delivered welcome remarks.

The ministers stressed on the increasing need for closer cooperation in the creation of an integrated multi-modal transport system to enhance regional connectivity. Dr. S Jaishankar recounted the historic visit of Hon'ble PM to Iran in 2016 which paved the way for Trilateral Agreement between India, Iran & Afghanistan.

Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of State (Independent Charge) termed Chabahar port as the "connecting point" for the region to deliver humanitarian assistance, especially during the COVID pandemic. He also mentioned Chabahar Port as part of our shared commitment towards peace, stability and prosperity of the people of Afghanistan. Chabahar has allowed India to export humanitarian supplies to Kabul and has also helped Afghanistan diversify its export opportunities. Shri Mandaviya while stressing on enhancing regional connectivity, stressed the significance of activation of INSTC along with the proposal to hold the next INSTC Coordination Council Meeting in DVC format. He informed that till 31st January, 2021 about 123 vessels have berthed at our terminal. IPGCFZ have handled approximately 13,752 TEUs and 1.8 million tons of bulk and general cargo. Efforts are going on to improve the traffic at Chabahar Port. Recently two Mobile Harbour Cranes have successfully been shipped to Iran from Italy via Mumbai in January, 2021. Four more will reach the port shortly.

Secretary (Ports, Shipping and Waterways), Shri Sanjeev Ranjan focused on the significance of Indian involvement for development of Chabahar Port and its achievements. He also stressed the role of Chabahar Port as a transit hub to support landlocked countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan by giving access to the open seas, optimizing logistic cost by bringing in efficiency, and creating a reliable and safe transport corridor.

The Ministerial level opening session was followed by two webinar sessions which had the presence of eminent personalities and



dignitaries including Mohammad Rastad, Deputy Minister of Roads and Urban Development and Managing Director, Ports and Maritime Organisation of Iran; Dr. Saeid Rasouli, Vice-Minister for Roads and Urban Development, Chairman of the Board and President of Railways of the Islamic Republic of Iran (RAI); Dr. Davood Moradian, Director General, Afghanistan's Institute of Strategic Studies; Ms. Zakia Wardak, Consulate General of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan; Mr. Farhad Mammadov Deputy Director, State Maritime Agency under the Ministry of Transport, Communications and High Technologies of the Republic of Azerbaijan.



‘The 21st century will not belong to land; it will be a century of the seas, skies and space’: Shri Mansukh Mandaviya

The Second edition of Virtual Maritime India Summit-2021 concluded with a keynote address from Shri Mansukh Mandaviya. The Shipping Minister said that Chabahar Port project would be developed as transit hub for cross connectivity between the India and Eurasia and further added that Chabahar Port handled 123 vessels and total 13,752 TEUs and 18 lakh tons of bulk / general cargo. Chabahar Port has emerged as the “connecting point” for the region to deliver humanitarian assistance during the COVID pandemic, added Shri Mandaviya. Shri Mandaviya reiterated the importance of the maritime sector and said, ‘The 21st century will not belong to land; it will be a century of the seas, skies and space’.

,Shri Sanjay Bandopadhyaya, additional secretary, MoPSW

briefed about the summit and added that about 1.90 lakh delegates registered for the summit, 16 international ministers from 11 nations joined for different sessions. A total of six union ministers, chief ministers of three states and two state ministers having joined us for different sessions. A total of 55 CEOs, which included 31 international CEOs and 24 Indian CEOs joined during the CEO's forum. A total of 110 exhibitors joined during the summit, in 18 pavilions and 107 booths, which led to 5,540 B2B meetings. A total of more than 64,000 visitors were recorded during the three days of the summit.

In his concluding remark, Shri Mansukh Mandaviya said, ‘Maritime India Summit-2021 will empower and strengthen Maritime India Vision-2030 which was launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in the inauguration of the summit. Due to MIS-2021, the expectations and the aspirations of the world towards India has increased. We have to keep marching towards achieving our goal. MoU signed during the summit should borne successful outcome with our dedicated and focused efforts’. Shri Mandaviya ended with optimism and said, “Aatmanirbhar Maritime Sector’ would be foundation of the New India and ‘Aatmanirbhar India”

First-of-its-kind Cruise Service starts between Surat and Diu



Minister of State for Ports, Shipping & Waterways (I/C) Shri Mansukh Mandaviya flagged off the Cruise service from Hazira Port of Surat to Diu today via video

conferencing.

In his inaugural address, Shri Mansukh Mandaviya said that the Development of cruise tourism is the prime focus of the Government of India under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

‘I feel very happy to announce that before 2014, there were 139 cruise calls at the Indian Ports but today we have 450 cruise calls in the country despite the COVID-19 pandemic. There has been a steady growth in the number of tourists traveling by Cruise Services since 2014. The number before 2014 was one lakh and the number of tourists in 2019-20 was 4.5 lakhs’, added Shri Mandaviya.

Shri Mandaviya reiterated that Indian coastline has a huge



potential for the cruise tourism industry and 6 International cruise terminals are being planned on both the west coast (Mumbai,Goa,Kochi) and east coast (Visakhapattanam, Kolkata, Chennai) of India. Shri Mansukh Mandaviya expressed optimism about the development of ferry, RoRo and ROPAX services between South Gujarat and Saurashtra region of Gujarat and said that water transportation is the new future of transportation with state-of-the-art ferry terminals and modern facilities in the cruise services.

One side voyage time of the cruise service is approximately 13 to 14 hours. Cruise has the capacity of 300 passengers and has 16 cabins. This cruise will sail two round trips in a week. The Cruise has Gaming Lounge, VIP Lounge, Entertainment on Deck and other modern amenities. One side journey will cost Rs.900+taxes(per head).

Water transportation is the new future of transportation and prime focus of Government under visionary leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi: Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, while e-flagging the cruise service

Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways celebrates 58th National Maritime Day-2021



Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways celebrated 58th National Maritime Day in commemoration of the maiden

voyage of the first Indian flag merchant vessel 'S.S.LOYALTY' from Mumbai to London, on the 5th April ,1919. The theme of National Maritime Day is 'Sustainable Shipping beyond COVID-19' with Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji's vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'

Hon'ble Minister Shri Mansukh Mandaviya addressed National Maritime Day celebrations and congratulated the maritime community and appreciated their hard work, zeal and courage and role played in the times of the COVID pandemic. He further said that Maritime India Vision-2030, recently launched by Prime Minister of India, is the comprehensive vision of the next decade for the maritime the sector of India and with a focused approach, the Indian maritime sector will be strong, technologically advanced and 'Aatmanirbhar' soon.

Hon'ble Minister concluded on a positive note, 'India is changing,

India is racing ahead, New India is being built like we were the Maritime leader in the past, India will lead the world again through the maritime sector'.

Shri Mandaviya launched the e-magazine as a souvenir for the 58th National Maritime Day and presented awards instituted by National Maritime Day Celebration Committee, which is headed by Director General of Shipping.

Dr. Sanjeev Ranjan, Secretary, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, said that the Maritime community has played an important role in the COVID times and added that Ministry was working effortlessly towards bringing progressive policy changes to give India a leadership place in the global maritime community.



Water taxi on 12 routes and ROPAX services on 4 new routes in Mumbai will start soon

Hon'ble Minister Shri Mansukh Mandaviya reviewed the Urban Water Transportation projects for Mumbai, Maharashtra. Senior Officials of the Ministry, Chairperson of Mumbai Port and officials of Maharashtra Maritime Board and other stakeholders were present in the meeting.

To promote eco-friendly waterways transportation and reduce the traffic load of crowded Mumbai city roads, 4 new routes for ROPAX ferry services and 12 new routes of Water Taxi are planned to be operational by December 2021.

Currently, ROPAX ((roll-on/roll-off passenger) service from Bhaucha Dhakka (Ferry Wharf) to Mandwa (Alibag) is successfully operating by reducing the road journey of 110 km to about 18 km by using waterways, thereby reducing travel time of daily



commuters from about 3-4 hours to merely one hour. After the huge benefits being reaped of this ferry service, similar services are planned to be operational at various other routes in Mumbai. The details of the new routes are as follows:

Proving to be a big boon for daily commuters in Mumbai, the 4 new routes of ROPAX Ferries and 12 routes of Water taxis will create a pollution-free, peaceful and time-saving journey as well as reduce the travel cost and carbon footprint significantly. It would also cater for the requirements of increasing number of tourists and commuters at various stretches of Mumbai city.

Shri Mansukh Mandaviya stated that operationalization of new waterways routes was a big step towards realizing Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji's vision of harnessing waterways and integrating them with the economic development of the country. It will unfold new opportunities and avenues to create an ecosystem and network of such ROPAX services and Water Taxi services at numerous other routes in all coastal states.

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Rs 110 crore ROPAX Jetty Project to come up on river Dhamra in Odisha

Travel time will reduce from 6 hours to just an hour!

MoPSW accorded administrative approval for sanction of Rs 50.30 crore for developing all-weather ROPAX (Roll-on/Roll-off Passenger) Jetty and allied infrastructure connecting Kaninali in Bhadrak district & Talachua in Kendrapara district, Odisha under the Sagarmala initiative. The Government of Odisha will fund another 50% cost of the project.

The total capital cost of the project is Rs 110.60 crore which includes construction of RO-PAX Jetty at Kaninali and Talachua, utility infrastructures such as parking area development, navigational aids and dredging.

Facilitating indirect employment opportunities to local population around Dhamra river and reduce road distance of 200 km from Talachua to Dhamra which will reduce travel time for passengers from 6 hours by road to 1 hour by waterways.

Kaninali in Bhadrak district and Talachua in Kendrapada district,



are located on the northern and southern banks of River Dhamra respectively. The people of Talachua and nearby villages largely depend upon Dhamra port for their livelihood, which is approximately 4 kms from Kaninali Ghat.

Since there is no connectivity through roads, the local population depends upon passenger ferries at ghats of Kaninali and Talachua to cross the river (a stretch of 7 Km). Currently, Number of passenger vehicles move through private boats without safety and passengers face difficulty in embarking and disembarking from launches on an everyday basis. This project will enhance the safety of passengers and vehicles with state-of-the-art utility infrastructure. The connectivity will increase the commercial and business activities and uplift the socio-economic status of the surrounding region.

All-weather ROPAX jetties along with the development of the existing ghat are being carried out with intent of accommodating boats, launches and other vessels as well as to ply vessel having capacity to carry 10 light Motor vehicles, 20 Motorbikes along with 60 passengers at a time, simultaneously ensuring safety of all passengers and vehicles.

Union Finance Minister Mrs. Nirmala Sitharaman announced a scheme to provide Rs 1,624 cr over 5 yrs as subsidy to Indian shipping companies in UNION BUDGET 2021-2022



Hon'ble Finance Minister Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman in the union budget 2021-2022 announced a scheme to provide Rs 1,624 crore over five years as subsidy to Indian shipping companies in

global tenders floated by ministries and CPSEs for import of government cargo

Registrations shall be done online within 72 hours like the world's best ships registries and this will make it easy and attractive to register ships in India and thereby aid in boosting the Indian tonnage. In addition to this, it is intended to provide 30 days to any



in-flagging vessel to replace the crew on board with Indian crew board. This will help to rationalize the manning requirements on the ships by aligning them with international standards.

This would further enable greater training and employment opportunities for Indian seafarers besides enhancing Indian companies share in global shipping. India has a 7,500 km long coastline, a significant national EXIM trade that has been steadily growing on an annual basis, a policy of 100 per cent FDI in shipping since 1997 and Indian shipping industry and India's national fleet is proportionately small when compared with its global counterparts.

Major Ports waive-off all charges for ships carrying oxygen and oxygen related equipment cargo



Highest priority accorded to berthing for oxygen related consignments

With the goal of boosting Oxygen requirement and related equipment in the country, Ministry

of Ports, Shipping and Waterways directed all Major Ports, including the Kamarajar Port Limited, to waive-off all charges levied by Major Port Trusts (including vessel related charges, storage charges etc.) and accord highest priority in the berthing sequence to the vessels carrying consignments of ;

- Medical Grade Oxygen
- Oxygen Tanks
- Oxygen Bottles
- Portable Oxygen Generators
- Oxygen Concentrators
- Steel Pipes for manufacturing Oxygen Cylinders and associated equipment for the next THREE months, or until further orders.

Port Chairpersons have been asked to personally supervise logistic operations to ensure unhindered movement of such consignments for berthing of such vessel on top priority in the port, unloading of oxygen related cargo, coordination with Customs and other authorities for speedy

clearance/documentation and expeditious evacuation of oxygen related cargo from port.

In case the vessel is carrying other cargo/containers in addition to above said oxygen related cargo, waiver of charges on pro-rata basis, considering the overall cargo or containers handled at port, should be provided for oxygen related cargo to such vessels.

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways will monitor the details of such vessels, cargo and time taken in the port from the time vessel entered in the port limits to exit of cargo from port gate.

Government of India is deeply engaged in handling the crisis related to the second wave of COVID-19 in the country and taking all steps to counter the situation through appropriate and innovative measures.

Hon'ble Minister Shri Mansukh Mandaviya reviewed the preparedness of hospitals of Major Ports for COVID Care Management

Hon'ble Minister Shri Mansukh Mandaviya chaired a review meeting for taking stock of the preparedness of Port hospitals in the wake of the second wave of CoVID-19. Chairpersons of all the Major Ports apprised the status of hospitals for the dedicated COVID care management in the meeting.

Currently, 12 Major Ports are operating 9 hospitals dedicatedly for COVID care across the country. Visakhapatnam Port Trust, Kolkata Port Trust, Mumbai Port Trust, Mormugao Port Trust, Chennai Port Trust, Mumbai Port Trust, JN Port Trust, Deendayal Port Trust (erstwhile Kandla Port) are operating these hospitals, with total capacity of 422 isolations beds, 305 oxygen supported beds, 28 ICU beds and ventilators to provide care to COVID-19 patients.

Minister directed all Chairpersons of Major Ports to ramp up their capacity and facilities by utilizing CSR funds and make them operational as fast as possible in the coming days. Minister also reiterated the Chairpersons to personally monitor the Medical Oxygen related cargo for swift and efficient handling of it at all Major Ports.

In his concluding remarks, Shri Mandaviya said, "India is currently facing the unprecedented situation and we should pull our socks up to contribute immensely by utilizing and ramping up our Port Hospital capacity. We will leave no stone unturned to fight back this pandemic with continuous and united efforts of all Major Ports."



New Mangalore Port Trust Port Initiatives

50th National Safety Week:

National Safety Week was observed on the Port in the month of March.

Safety pledge was administered to the officers, officials, dock workers, contract staff, Port users, CISF etc. Various competitions were organized & other activities such as mock drills were conducted at Oil Jetty, training for signal man of Cargo handling workers were conducted taking the services of Asst. Dock Safety officer as an activity under Safety Week Celebration.

Valedictory function of 50th National Safety Week was celebrated on 10.03.2021 in the Port. Dr. A. V. Ramana, Chairman, NMPT presided over the function, Shri Rajesh Mishrikoti, Dy. Dir. Factories & Boilers, D.K. Dist, Karnataka Govt., were Chief Guest in the event who were joined by Guests of Honour Shri K. G. Nath, Dy. Chairman, NMPT & Shri Milind Barhate, Asst. Dir., IDS.

Prizes were distributed to the winners of various competitions during the week

FICCI granted 'Outstanding Leadership Award' to New Mangalore Port



FICCI awarded New Mangalore Port for its professional Management & contribution to state economy on at the Karnataka Coastline Business Conclave 2021.

NMPT Chairman Dr. A. V. Ramana received the "Outstanding

Leadership Award" from Shri Jagadish Shettar, Hon'ble Minister of Medium & Large Industries, Govt. of Karnataka in presence of Shri Gaurav Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary to Commerce & Industries, GOK, Member of Parliament Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel & Shri Ullas Kamath, President, FICCI Karnataka.

Addressing the eminent dignitaries, Dr. Ramana spoke about various industrial aspects in the Coastal Karnataka region and emphasized on the importance of enhanced road connectivity for the betterment of the industries & trade in the Mangalore region.

Eminent dignitaries included officials from State Govt., Industry partners, Senior Officers from NMPT were also present in the event.



New Mangalore Port handled largest dry cargo vessel

Cape sized vessel 'M. V. Cape Keystone' carrying a load of 293 MT LOA & 45 MT beam berthed at B. No.-16 of Mangalore Coal Terminal Pvt. Ltd., (JSW). The cargo carrier was the largest vessel ever handled in the Port.

Chairman, NMPT congratulated the Officers of Marine Department for handling the large vessel meticulously, which called at the Port.

58th National Maritime Day

National Maritime Day was celebrated with much enthusiasm and fanfare at NMPT premises on 5th April

Dr. A. V. Ramana, Chairman, NMPT presided over the function and laid wreath at

the Seamen's Memorial to pay tributes to those unsung seafarers who laid their lives at sea.

Dy. Chairman, HOD's, Officers, Officials, CISF, Customs, Coast Guard, MMD, Port users & other stake holders of the Port also paid floral tribute to the Seamen's Memorial.

Dignitaries and Port officials witnessed the sail past ceremony of the fleet of tugboats & other marine vessels from the Marine Department. On this occasion mock drills were also demonstrated



on different type of perils encountered at sea & skilful contingency responses to tackle emergencies & to bring them under control.

On 5th April 1919, Navigation History was created when SS Loyalty, the first Indian flagship, sailed from Mumbai to United Kingdom.



National fire service day observed at NMPT

National Fire Service Day was observed on April 20th in commemoration of the fire who laid down their lives in their service.

Chairman, NMPT Dr A. V. Ramana presided over the function & laid wreath on the Martyr's column to pay homage to those firemen who had laid down their lives whilst discharging their duty.

Dr. Ramana addressed the gathering on the occasion and appreciated the service rendered by fire service personnel's and compared them to the soldiers fighting with enemy in Nation's border.

He also appreciated the presence of fire personnel in every eventuality whether it was small animal rescue or a big fire incident. He congratulated the Port fire service for their exemplary service rendered on various fire incidents, animal rescues etc. in & outside the port area. Dr. Ramana emphasized that the Port fire service should be well equipped in terms of infrastructure & skills to handle any sort of eventualities in and around the Port vicinity.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions attendees for the occasion were restricted to 50 numbers and all safety measures were followed in due diligence. Deputy Chairman, senior officers, trustees & officials of the Port were also present at the juncture and paid homage to the martyr's column. At the end the Port's fire service team demonstrated their impeccable skills in handling various classified fire incidents, fire rescues, etc. to the audience present on the occasion.

NMPT & IOCL sign agreement on Bunkering Facilities!



NMPT signed an agreement with IOCL for providing Bunkering Facilities to the ships visiting harbour and ships at anchorage/offshore at the Port.

After the formal contract agreement, the expected minimum cargo to be handled will be 90,000 MT annually.

Dr. A. V. Ramana, Chairman, NMPT oversaw the agreement signing along with Dy. Chairman, senior officers of the Port. Shri. Debabrata Mukherjee, GM Institutional Business IOCL & Shri V. Jagadeeshwara Rao, Manager Institutional Business IOCL also graced the occasion

NMPT Fire Service rushes to prevent fire accident in nearby SEZ

NMPT Fire Service team received an emergency call from a nearby SEZ on fire breakout at a Company called Catasynth Speciality Chemicals.



NMPT fire service team from Marine Department rushed to the accident site & helped in dowsing the massive fire.

The fire incident took place on 24-04-2021 evening & was controlled with a multi-agency coordinated operation.

NMPT handled Cape-Sized Cargo Vessel MV AQUAKATANA

NMPT handled Cape sized vessel 'MV AQUAKATANA' having draft of 13.18 meters & 290 meters LOA belonging to M/s Balaji Malts berthed at Berth No.-16 with 100,286 MT of Steam Coal.

This was the second biggest cargo carrying vessel called at the Port in this year.



V.O Chidambaranar Port

Indian Maritime University-Chennai Campus Conducted its Annual Management Fest, 'Estuary'



School of Maritime Management of Indian Maritime University Chennai Campus held its 9th edition of , the annual Management fest 'Estuary' on 15th and 16th April 2021.

The two-day programme on the virtual platform included a National Seminar and an Intercollegiate Management Fest. The fest acted as a platform for the budding managers to showcase their talents and business acumen. Dedicated to the cause of covid warriors, 'Covid Superheroes: A Horizon of Human Excellence' was the theme selected for this year's fest.

Shri T. K. Ramachandran, Chairman, V. O. Chidambaranar Port inaugurated the programme on 15th April 2021. Eminent guests included Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of IMU, Dr. Malini V. Shankar IAS (Retd.).

National Seminar

After the inauguration, a national seminar under the broader theme 'Was Covid a Maritime Obstruction



or an Innovative Disruption?' was conducted in two technical sessions which was attended by participants from industry and academia alike.

The deliberations and discussions by learned maritime experts enabled the young managers an opportunity to reflect on the strategic and tactical responses adopted by the maritime players during the pandemic.

The virtual platform opened the avenues for a large participation as almost 450 participants comprising of working professionals from the maritime sector, faculty and students from various universities & colleges had taken part in it. The students from 33 colleges, who participated on Day1, belong to 24 states of India.

Technical session one was organised under the theme 'Effects of Pandemic on Port & Shipping Industry' where 4 eminent personalities from port and shipping industry deliberated upon topics related to port and shipping operations during the pandemic.

Dr. M. Beena, Chairperson, Cochin Port delivered the valedictory address.



ANCIENT HISTORY OF SHIP BUILDING IN INDIA

Earliest evidence of shipbuilding has been found as early as 3100 BC. Archaeological evidence have thrown light that ancient Egyptians knew the art of assembling wood planks into 'hull' sized shapes. Even the Pharaohs were said to be buried along with boats to accompany them in their journey to the others side. Greek Philosophers, poets like Homer created epic saga like 'Odysseus' where ships played an important role. Expert Greek Ship builders used the technique of building their ship from the outside in, first the exterior than the interior. Ancient Greece engaged warships and one of them being called Trireme. Trireme translated from Latin means "with three banks of oars" and that's because it had 3 rows of oars each manned with one man.

Beginning of boat building technology in India also dates to 3rd

Millennium BC, to the Harappan civilization. The Harappans (or Indus Civilization) constructed the first tide dock of the world for berthing and servicing ships at the port town of Lothal. A trapezoid reservoir measuring on an average 214 x 36 meters has been excavated and has been identified as a dockyard. The structure was strati graphically connected to the old riverbed of Sabarmati. The dock was used in two stages, at the first stage it was designed to allow ships 18-20 meters long and 4-6 meters wide.

It is said that atleast two ships could simultaneously pass and enter easily. In the second stage, the inlet channel was narrowed to accommodate large ships but only single ships with flat bottoms could enter. The terracotta models of a boat from Lothal





and engravings on Indus seals give some idea of ships going to the sea. Lothal, with its large market and a busy dock, was a great emporium where goods from neighbouring towns and villages, such as Rangpur, Kath etc. were sold in exchange for imported and locally manufactured ones. Lothal had developed overseas trade with the West Coast of India on the one hand and the Mesopotamian cities through the Bahrain islands on the other

Harappans not only built a unique dock but also provided facilities for handling cargo. There were other smaller ports such as Bhagatrav, Sutkagendor and Sutkakah, and perhaps a large one at Dholavira, all in Gujarat. An engraving on a seal from Mohenjodaro represents a sailing ship. Out of five miniature clay models of boats one is complete and represents a ship with sail. The Harappan ship must have been as big as the modern country crafts, which bring timber from Malabar to Gogha. On this analogy it can be assumed that a load up to 60 tons could be carried by these ships. The sizes of the anchor stones found in the Lothal dock also support this view

It is a recorded fact that Pushyadeva, the ruler of Sindh (now in Pakistan) pushed back the formidable Arab navy attacks in 756 AD, which only indicates his marine prowess. The historical text Yuktikalpataru (11th Century AD) deals with shipbuilding and gives details of various types of ships. Boats used for different purposes were called by different names such as Samanya, Madhyama and Vishesha for passenger service, cargo, fishing and ferrying over the river.

The earliest reference to maritime activities in India occurs in Rigveda, "Do thou whose countenance is turned to all side send off our adversaries, as if in a ship to the opposite shore: do thou convey us in a ship across the sea for our welfare" (Rigveda, 1, 97, 7 and 8).

The technology of boat building was a hereditary profession passing from father to son and was a monopoly of a particular caste of people. The local builders used the hand, fingers and feet as the units of measurements. In different places, different kinds of boats were built for specific purposes.

Traditional Boat-building in various states of India

In India, various places had the traditional boats and boat building technology. The Andhara coast was known for different types of traditional boats constructed for cargo transport, fishing and ferrying purposes. These traditional boats were constructed at Nellore, Prakaram, Godavari and Guntur districts.

The art of shipbuilding in Karnataka was a monopoly of a class of people known as mestas or acharis (carpenter). The type of wood used for shipbuilding known as kshatriya that has been also mentioned in Yuktikalpataru.

Raft, dugout and plank built boats were the main traditional types in the Kerala coast.

The traditional boat builders of Chilika region in Odisha were called Bindhani, Barhais and Vishwakaramas (carpenters). They use to build small flat-bottomed boats known as nauka or danga.

The boat builders and ships have been depicted in the brick temple in the district of Midnapore, Birbhum and Bankura in Bengal. The vessels are classified as raft, dugouts and cargo carriers and were used for commercial purpose.

In Lakshadweep, coconut tree is locally available in abundance, thus coconut wood was and is still used in local boats. It is difficult to say with authority, what made early boat builders to use coconut wood. Stand odam is the most widely used typical boat of Lakshadweep. These Boats in Lakshadweep were being built locally for the use of islanders.

Traditional boat builders could make ships, which were fully seaworthy and could sale to West Asia. The traditional boat building technology needs to be combined harmoniously with modern technology to produce more efficient vessels.

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and waterways is implementing several initiatives towards restoring the maritime legacy of our nation. Along with the upcoming Maritime Heritage Complex at Lothal, similar and substantial efforts are being made along lighthouses that will shed light on maritime glory. As our Hon'ble Minister Shri Mansukh Mandaviya Ji has said, "

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