SAGARMALA
PORT-LED PROSPERITY

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन
एवं जलमार्ग मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
PORTS, SHIPPING
AND WATERWAYS

வ.உ.சி துறைமுக ஆணையம்
வி.ஓ.சி पत्तन प्राधिकरण
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The e-Bulletin of V.O.Chidambaranar Port Authority

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2025-26 Q3









From the Desk of Chairperson



Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE
Chairperson

Dear Friends,,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the third-quarter edition of our Port's newsletter for the financial year 2025-26. The past three months have witnessed steady progress and several notable achievements, which I am pleased to share with you.

Up to the third quarter of this financial year, the Port handled 31.97 million tonnes of cargo, registering a growth of 4.41% over the 30.62 million tonnes handled during the corresponding period last year. Container operations also recorded healthy growth, with 6,42,454 TEUs handled, reflecting a 10.47% increase compared to 5,81,557 TEUs during the same period of the previous financial year.

The Port is now poised for major infrastructure development. Key initiatives include the creation of a new multi-cargo Berth No.10, construction of North Cargo Berth-4 for bulk cargo, strengthening of Berths 3, 4, and 7, and widening of the Port's entrance channel. Sustainability continues to be a core focus area for the Port. We are expanding our renewable energy generation with an additional 1 MW ground-based solar facility and a 6 MW wind farm. Further, a pilot green methanol bunkering and refuelling facility with a storage capacity of 2x750 cubic metres is under development, which will enhance investor confidence and strengthen the green fuel ecosystem in the shipping sector.

The Port aims to become India's first carbon-neutral port through the adoption of renewable energy, promotion of electric mobility, expansion of green belts, and implementation of waste-to-wealth initiatives. In this regard, the Port has been identified for Green Shipping Corridors, including a green methanol corridor with Deendayal Port and a biodiesel corridor with Paradip Port.

The Outer Harbour Project of the Port is progressing steadily. A major milestone has been achieved with the floating of the tender under the Hybrid Annuity Mode (HAM). The project envisages two state-of-the-art deep-draft container terminals, each with a 1,000-metre quay length, with a combined capacity of 4 million TEUs. The terminals will have a draft of 18 metres to accommodate 22,000 TEU vessels.

At the same time, VOC Port Authority and SIPCOT are jointly developing India's first world-class shipbuilding cluster in Tamil Nadu. This facility will allow the construction of large ships and the repair of ships to global standards, creating a strong ecosystem for the maritime industry. Overall, these projects will strengthen VOC Port's position as a key centre for modern, sustainable, and future-ready maritime development.

I sincerely thank our employees, stakeholders, and partners for their dedication and continued cooperation in advancing the Port's growth. With collective effort, we will continue to build a greener, stronger, and more vibrant Port.

Susanta Kumar Purohit,
IRSEE,
Chairperson.

Port Performance

Traffic Performance

Port has handled 31.97 Million Tonnes of cargo up to the end of the third quarter of this financial year 2025-26, registering 4.41 % growth compared to the 30.62 Million Tonnes handled during the same period of the last financial year.

Port also recorded a 10.47% increase in container traffic, handling 6,42,454 TEUs up to the end of the third quarter of this financial year 2025-26, compared to the 5,81,557 TEUs handled in the corresponding period of the previous financial year.

Operational Achievements

New Benchmark in Windmill Blade Handling

On 11.11.2025, Port has created a new milestone with the successful handling of 103 windmill blades in a single ship, marking the first time such a large number of blades has been handled at the Port. This achievement surpasses the earlier record of 101 blades exported on 22.08.2025, setting a new benchmark in renewable energy cargo handling.



Port Performance

Historic berthing of the largest container vessel



On 22.12.2025, Port achieved a major milestone, with the successful berthing of M.V. MSC Michaela, the longest container vessel ever at the Port with a Length Overall of 304 metres, a beam of 40 metres, at the Dakshin Bharat Gateway Terminal. The event was graced by Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, along with senior officers of the Port.

Swift Coal Handling in NCB-III

In just 58 hours 55 minutes, 72,205 tonnes of coal were handled across NCB-II and 7th Berth, including berth shifting by MV SEA JUNO.



Green Cell Initiatives

Solar and Wind Energy







Port has generated 1,13,52,510 units of renewable energy up to the the third quarter of this financial year 2025-26. This shows a 32.6 % rise compared to the 85,61,509 units produced during the same period last financial year.

This renewable energy is generated through Port's 5 MW ground-based solar power plant, 2 MW wind turbine, and 1.04 MW rooftop solar power system.

Green Cell Initiatives

Honoured with ‘Green Visionary’ Award at India Maritime Week 2025



The Port was honoured with the ‘Green Visionary’ Award at the awards ceremony held during India Maritime Week 2025 in Mumbai. The award was presented by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon’ble Minister, MoPSW, in the presence of Shri Shantanu Thakur, Hon’ble Minister of State, MoPSW,

Conferred IGBC Founding Member Certificate



The Port has been conferred the IGBC Founding Member Certificate at the Indian Green Building Council Conference held in Mumbai from 27-29 November 2025.

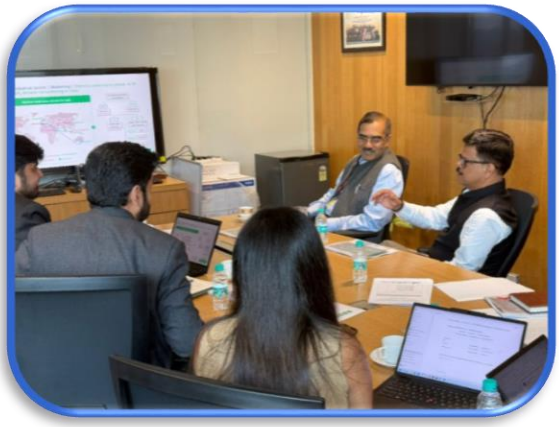
Green Cell Initiatives

Beach cleaning programme



On 12.10.2025, a Beach Cleaning Programme was conducted at the Port Beach, by the Lions Club of SPIC Nagar and Leo Club of SPIC Nagar in association with VOC Port.

Meeting with Mission Director, MNRE



On 17.10.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, met Shri Abhay Bakre, Mission Director for Green Hydrogen at the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, to discuss advancing the green fuel ecosystem.

Participation in Green Hydrogen panel discussion



On 12.11.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, participated in the panel discussion on 'Developing Port Infrastructure for Green Hydrogen: Bunkering and Refueling' at the 3rd International Conference on Green Hydrogen, graced by Shri Tarun Kapoor, Advisor to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India.

FIDE-rating Chess tournament



On 01.10.2025, Shri Rajesh Soundararajan, IAS., Deputy Chairperson, inaugurated the International FIDE Rating Chess tournament, sponsored by the Port held at Port's community hall. The tournament was organised by Thoothukudi District Chess Association from 1st to 5th October 2025.



On 05.10.2025, the valedictory function of the FIDE-rating chess tournament was held. Shri Albert John, IPS, District Superintendent of Police, Tuticorin, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and, along with Shri S.P. Mohan Kumar, Secretary & President of the VOC Sports Council, presented prizes to the winners.

Events

New Financial Advisor & Chief Accounts Officer assumed charge



On 09.09.2025, Shri Probal Mitra assumed charge as Financial Advisor and Chief Accounts Officer of the Port. He brings with him valuable experience from his previous role as Senior Deputy Manager (Finance) at Haldia Dock Complex, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Authority.

Trade Meet, Tiruppur

On 10.10.2025, the Port organised a Trade Meet at Tiruppur, in association with Dakshin Bharat Container Terminal and Tuticorin International Container Terminal.



Roadshow for India Maritime Week 2025, Tuticorin



On 14.10.2025, Port hosted a roadshow for India Maritime Week 2025, engaging the EXIM community and media. Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson highlighted the upcoming green energy projects, capacity augmentation projects and major IT initiatives taken up by the Port.

Events

Blood Donation Camp at the Port Hospital



On 14.10.2025, the Port in association with Government Thoothukudi Medical College Hospital, organized a Blood Donation Camp at the VOC Port Hospital, Tuticorin. The camp was inaugurated by Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson.

Trade meet, Madurai

On 15.10.2025, Port organised a trade meet in Madurai, bringing together journalists, media representatives, dignitaries, and stakeholders from various regions for an insightful discussion on advancing India's maritime agenda in the run-up to India Maritime Week 2025.



World Trauma Day



On 17.10.2025, on the occasion of World Trauma Day and the nationwide Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Awareness Week, Port organized a Basic Life Support training session for dock workers at the wharf. The training was conducted by Dr. Arun, Consultant Physician.

Events

Breast Cancer Awareness Rally



On 22.10.2025, the Port organized a Breast Cancer Awareness Rally to mark the International Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign 2025, which was flagged off by Shri Rajesh Soundararajan, IAS, Deputy Chairperson.



A signature campaign promoting awareness was inaugurated by Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, by adding the first signature.

Training programme as part of Vigilance Awareness Week 2025

On 22.10.2025, as part of Vigilance Awareness Week 2025, the Port organized a training programme on the theme “Vigilance: Our Shared Responsibility,” where Dr. Ashok Kumar Panda, Media Analyst and Corporate Coach, shared insights on promoting integrity, accountability, and ethical conduct in the workplace.



Events

Ayurveda Day



On 23.10.2025, Port's Medical Department observed the 10th Ayurveda Day at the Port Hospital, by organising a special guest lecture for the medical and paramedical staff.

Inauguration of Vigilance Awareness Week 2025

On 24.10.2025, Vigilance Awareness Week 2025 was inaugurated at the Port with the theme "Vigilance: Our Shared Responsibility." Shri P. Kavin Maharaj, IOFS, Chief Vigilance Officer, administered the Integrity Pledge to all officers and staff of the Port.



Safety Huddle



On 24.10.2025, a Safety Huddle was conducted at the Port with the participation of terminal and industry representatives with the objective of achieving a zero-accident environment within the Port premises.

Cleaning drive as part of Fit India Freedom Run 6.0 campaign



On 28.10.2025, as part of the month-long Fit India Freedom Run 6.0 campaign, Port's Medical Department organised a dedicated cleaning programme within its premises.

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day)





On 31.10.2025, the Port observed Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day), 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Iron Man of India.. All senior officers of the Port paid floral tributes to the great leader, honoring his monumental contribution to national integration and unity. Shri P. Naresh Kumar, Chief Medical Officer, administered the National Unity Day Pledge.

India Maritime Week 2025





From 27–31 October, India Maritime Week 2025 was held in Mumbai and witnessed strong international participation from maritime industry leaders.





During the event, the Port signed 29 MoUs with key stakeholders in several sectors worth ₹90,936 crore.

India Maritime Week 2025



IM Calcutta unveiled a case study on VOC Port's sustainability journey, in the presence of Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Union Minister, MoPSW, Shri Vijay Kumar, Secretary, MoPSW and Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson.



Port participated in the Tamil Nadu State Session on next-generation industries, shipbuilding, clean energy, and manufacturing. The session, was attended by Shri T.R.B. Raaja, Industry Minister and other key stakeholders.



Shri Shantanu Thakur, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, visited the Port's pavilion. The Hon'ble Minister unveiled the first-ever animated video on the life history of V.O. Chidambaranar.

Events

VOC Port Authority Trophy



On 02.11.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, presented the VOC Port Authority Trophy at the 15th All India Level Invitational Inter-Collegiate Basketball Tournament for Men and Women, held at the V.N.M.A.D. Ramakrishnan B.E. Flood Light Basketball Court, Tuticorin Gymkhana Club.

Vigilance Awareness Rally

On 05.11.2025, the Vigilance Awareness Programme commenced with an awareness rally from Green Gate to the Administrative Building, flagged off by Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson.



Global Freight Forum, Kandla



On 07.11.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson and Shri Rajesh Soundararajan, IAS, Deputy Chairperson participated in the Global Freight Forum, Kandla 2025.

Commemoration of 150 Years of National Song ‘Vande Mataram’



On 07.11.2025, the Port commemorated the 150th birth anniversary of the Indian National Song ‘Vande Mataram’. The ceremony included a collective rendering of the full version of ‘Vande Mataram’ by the Port’s employees and staff, along with the Port School students and staff.

Valedictory function of Vigilance Awareness Week



On 10.11.2025, the Valedictory function of Vigilance Awareness Week was held at the Port, themed “Vigilance: Our Shared Responsibility.” Smt. Aarti C. Srivastava, IOFS, Additional Secretary, Central Vigilance Commission, graced the event as the Chief Guest and addressed the gathering.



She also released the Vigilance Department’s magazine ‘Voice of Vigilance’ and presented prizes to the winners of various competitions conducted during the Vigilance Awareness Week.

Events

'One Nation One Port' review meeting



On 10.11.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, participated in the 'One Nation One Port' review meeting, graciously chaired by Shri Vijay Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

Inauguration of Inter-School District Swimming Meet 2025

On 12.11.2025, the two-day Inter-School District Swimming Meet 2025 was inaugurated at the Port's swimming pool. The event saw participation from 250 students representing 40 schools across the district. The evemt was organised by the District Sports Authority, Thoothukudi, in association with Harbour Higher Secondary School.



93rd Safety Committee Meeting



On 13.11.2025, the 93rd Safety Committee Meeting concluded with productive outcomes. Convened to elevate safety standards and resolve grievances related to safety measures voiced by port users, the session incorporated valuable suggestions from stakeholders.

Events

Launch of DBGT Terminal Mobile Application



On 14.11.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson launched the DBGT's Mobile Application. The new application offers live vessel tracking, real-time container updates, gate status, daily/weekly schedules, instant alerts, and easy access for exporters, importers, CHAs, and shipping lines.

Visit of Capt. S. Divakar, MD & CEO of Dredging Corporation of India Limited

On 18.11.2025, Capt. S. Divakar, Managing Director & CEO of Dredging Corporation of India Limited, visited the Port and held discussion with Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson.



Signing of an MoU with Ambuja Cement Limited



On 19.11.2025, an MoU was signed with Ambuja Cement Limited under the Minimum Guaranteed Tonnage-based Incentive Scheme for coastal clinkers. The agreement assures coastal movement of 2,50,000 metric tonnes of clinker annually.

Events

National Integration Day



On 19.11.2025, the Port observed National Integration Day to mark the birth anniversary of Smt. Indira Gandhi, the first woman Prime Minister of India.

High-level capacity augmentation review meeting, New Delhi

On 21.11.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, participated in a high-level capacity augmentation review meeting, held in New Delhi under the chairmanship of Shri Vijay Kumar, IAS, Secretary, MoPSW.



Beach cleaning drive as part of Swachhata Pakhwada 2025



On 22.11.2025, as part of Swachhata Pakhwada 2025, senior officers and staff, along with the dedicated Green Brigade, participated in a beach-cleaning drive.

Events

Meeting with All India Chamber of ommerce & Industries



On 25.11.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, chaired a meeting with representatives of the All India Chamber of Commerce & Industries, Tuticorin.

New Harbour Master assumed charge

On 25.11.2025, Capt. Paul Nadar Bennet Singh assumed charge as the Harbour Master at V.O. Chidambaranar Port Authority.



Constitution Day



On 26.11.2025, Constitution Day was observed in the Port to commemorate the adoption of the Indian Constitution in 1949. Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, along with the dignitaries read out the Preamble to the Constitution of India, which was read by all officers and staff.

Events

Valedictory function of skill development programmes



On 26.11.2025, the valedictory function of the Skill Development Programmes conducted by the Centre of Excellence in Maritime and Shipbuilding (CEMS), under the Port's CSR initiative, was held at the Port. Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, distributed the course completion certificates to the successful trainees.

World AIDS Day

On 01.12.2025, on the occasion of World AIDS Day, Port's Medical Department organised a commemorative programme during which all employees renewed their commitment to HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention by taking the AIDS Pledge.



Meeting with Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy



On 03.12.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, and Shri Rajesh Soundararajan, IAS, Deputy Chairperson, met Shri Santosh Kumar Sarangi, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, in New Delhi.

Events

Participation in National Review Meeting



On 03.12.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson attended a high-level review meeting chaired by Shri Vijay Kumar, IAS, Secretary, MoPSW on the implementation of shore power supply facilities across all Major Ports of India.

Visit of Shri E.S. Nagendra Prasad, IRS, PCC of Income Tax, TN & Puducherry

On 09.12.2025, Shri E.S. Nagendra Prasad, IRS, Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Tamil Nadu & Puducherry, visited the Port. Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, VOC Port, along with senior officials, extended a warm welcome to him.



Workshop on Current Reality Tree (CRT)-based problem solving



On 09.12.2025, Port conducted a full-day Workshop on Current Reality Tree (CRT)-based problem solving, led by Dr. Raveendran Palaniyandi, Principal Advisor, VOC Port Authority.

Events

Session on Labour Codes



On 10.12.2025, the Port hosted an insightful session on the recently implemented Labour Codes, conducted by Dr. Srinu Dara, Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner; Shri Pravin Pandi Mohandas, Regional Labour Commissioner, Madurai; Shri Sunil Keerthi, Labour Enforcement Officer, Tuticorin; and Shri S.V. Arun, Labour Enforcement Officer, Madurai.

Participation as panelist at National PSU Residential Summit 2025

On 12.12.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, participated as a distinguished panelist in the session “PSUs as Catalysts for Atmanirbhar and Viksit Bharat: Redefining Infrastructure” at the National PSU Residential Summit 2025, themed “Championing Innovation, Catalysing Viksit Bharat’s Growth Story.”



Celebrating 30 MMT cargo throughput achievement



On 15.12.2025, a commemorative gathering was held at the Port to mark the achievement of 30 Million Metric Tonnes of cargo throughput, in the presence of Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, Shri Rajesh Soundararajan, IAS, Deputy Chairperson and senior Port officials.

Visit of Coast Guard officials



On 16.12.2025, Inspector General Shri Datwinder Singh Saini, TM, Commander, Coast Guard Region (East), accompanied by Deputy Inspector General Shri T. Ashish, District Commander (South Tamil Nadu), met Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, and Shri Rajesh Soundararajan, IAS, Deputy Chairperson.

Flagging Off the trial operation of a 60-Tonne Bollard Pull Tug





On 18.12.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, along with senior Port officers, flagged off the the new ASTDS-compliant, Indian-built tug “M.T. Ocean Alliance”, with bollard pull of 60 tonnes and a Gross Registered Tonnage (GRT) of 498 tonnes.

Participating in MSME CONNECT 2025 – Madurai





On 18.12.2025 and 19.12.2025, the Port participated in “MSME CONNECT 2025 -Madurai,” organized by the MSME Development & Facilitation Office, Guindy, Chennai, in association with MADITSSIA and FASII.

ICCI New Year celebration 2026



On 22.12.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson and Shri Rajesh Soundararajan, IAS, Deputy Chairperson attended the New Year Celebration–2026 programme organised by the Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ICCI), Tuticorin.

Visit of Shri Rajesh Kulhari, Joint Secretary, MNRE



On 28.12.2025, Shri Rajesh Kulhari, Joint Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, accompanied by senior MNRE and NIWE officials, visited the Port.

Visit of Shri Venkatesapathy, IAS, JS, (Ports, IT & e-Governance), MoPSW

On 29.12.2025, Shri Venkatesapathy, IAS, Joint Secretary (Ports, IT & e-Governance), Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, visited the Port.



Retirements

November 2025



Smt. S. Vachareswari,
Record Sorter,
Marine Department.

December 2025



Smt. K.T. Rajasri
Accounts Officer
Finance Department



Shri S. Palani Kumarasamy
Accounts Officer
Finance Department



Smt. S. Muthulakshmi
Hospital Attender
Medical Department



Smt. P.Jeya
Supervisor
Traffic Department