

KORKAI

The e-Bulletin of V.O.Chidambaranar Port Authority

Jan - Mar 2025

2024-25 Q4



From the Desk of Chairperson



Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE
Chairperson

I am delighted to present the final newsletter of the financial year 2024-25. As we reflect on this year's journey, it is truly gratifying to witness the significant milestones and achievements that our Port has made.

In this financial year, the Port has efficiently handled 41.72 million tonnes of cargo, reflecting a growth of 0.78% compared to the 41.40 million tonnes handled during the same period last year. Our containerized cargo operations have also seen a strong 6.40% increase, with 7,95,222 TEUs handled, up from 7,47,363 TEUs, in the previous financial year. This remarkable progress reflects the dedication and hard work of everyone associated with the Port.

A major contributor to this growth has been our significant strides in infrastructure development. In January 2025, we commissioned two harbour mobile cranes with a capacity of 100 tonnes each. Recently, additional two harbour mobile cranes with a 100-tonne capacity arrived at the Port on 26.03.2025. With these additions, our fleet now consists of seven harbour mobile cranes, with two more expected to join by May 2025. This expansion will accelerate cargo evacuation and reduce vessel turnaround times.

The Link Conveyor System connecting the conveyor of the Tuticorin Thermal Power Station and the Port's coal yard commenced operations, with the potential to enhance the coal handling capacity. Additionally, Berth-7 (formerly PSA SICAL Container Terminal) has been taken over by the Port.

A significant development underway is the dredging of North Cargo Berth-III to a depth of 15.10 meters, enabling the handling of vessels with a 14.20-meter draft. Following this, dredging will extend to the turning circle and channel area, increasing the turning circle's diameter from 488 meters to 550 meters. This critical enhancement, expected to be completed by May 2025, will further strengthen the Port's capacity to accommodate larger vessels efficiently.

In line with our commitment to renewable energy and green Port initiatives, our Port is constructing an exclusive terminal with two berths for handling heavy-duty windmill blades and accessories, which will contribute to the generation of 20 GW of wind power along the Tamil Nadu coastline. Additionally, plans are underway to construct a multi-cargo Berth No.10 with an LOA of 440 meters, further expanding our capabilities in handling diverse cargo. With these developments and our collective efforts, I am confident that we will achieve a cargo of 50 million tonnes in the financial year 2025-26.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to all the employees, Port users, and stakeholders for their invaluable contributions to the Port's success. Together, we will continue to reach new milestones and establish ourselves as the preferred Port on the east coast of India. Thank you for your continued support, and I look forward to another year of growth and excellence.

Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE
Chairperson

PORT PERFORMANCE

Traffic Performance

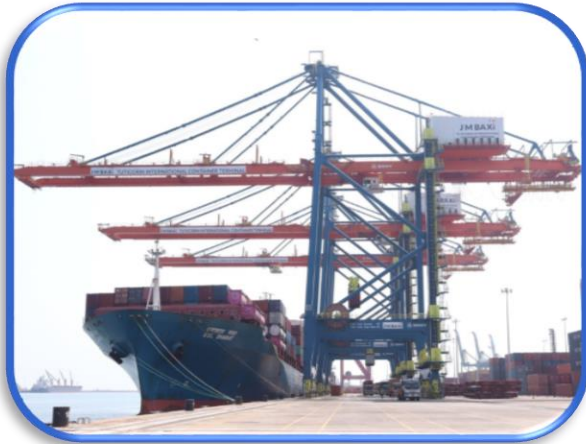
V.O.Chidambaranar Port handled 41.72 million tonnes of cargo in the financial year 2024-25, compared to 41.40 million tonnes handled during same period of last year, registering an increase of 0.78% .

The Port recorded a 6.40% growth in container traffic, handling 7,95,222 TEUs in the financial year 2024-25, compared to the 7,47,363 TEUs handled during the same period of the previous Financial Year.

Operational Achievements

Single Day Record

Container Handling



On 23.01.2025, the Port's container terminals handled 5250 TEUs in a Single Day, the highest single day container volume handled this FY 2024-25.

North Cargo Berth - II



On 01.02.2025, Port has created a new record by handling 30,789 Tonnes of cargo in a single day, surpassing the previous single day cargo handling record of 23,523 Tonnes handled at bulk cargo berth NCB II on 13.09.2024.

PORT PERFORMANCE

Total Cargo Handling



On 23.02.2025, Port has created a new record by handling 2,04,650 Tonnes of total cargo in a single day, surpassing the previous single day cargo handling record of 2,04,512 Tonnes on 30.10.2024.

On 15.03.2025, the Port set a single day cargo handling record at Berth-6, by handling 30,352 tonnes of Coal, using harbour mobile cranes, surpassing the previous single day record of 18,365 tonnes on 01.03.2025.

Berth - 6



Berth - 3/4



On 21.03.2025, the Port set a single day cargo handling record at berth-4, by handling 33,952 tonnes of Coal, using harbour mobile cranes, surpassing the previous record of 32,000 tonness of coal on 13.02.2025 at berth-3/4.

PORT PERFORMANCE



The Port set a new record by handling 13 windmill blade-carrying ships in May 2024, surpassing the previous highest of 10 ships handled in July 2021.

Green Initiatives

The Port has made history as the first major Port in India to surpass 1 MW of rooftop solar power capacity. With the recent addition of a 400 kW off-grid rooftop solar system, the Port's total rooftop solar capacity now stands at 1.04 MW.



The Port has generated 1,03,52,733 units of renewable energy in the financial year 2024-25, through its 5 MW ground-based solar power plant, 2 MW wind turbine, and 1.4 MW rooftop solar power system. These efforts have led to substantial carbon savings of 84,89,241 Kg of CO₂, highlighting the Port's commitment to green energy and environmental sustainability.

EVENTS

Pradhan Mantri TB Mukth Bharat Abhiyaan



On 14.02.2025, as part of the Pradhan Mantri TB Mukth Bharat Abhiyan, Port organized an awareness programme, which was inaugurated by Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson. Dr.Sundaralingam, Deputy Director Health services (TB), Thoothukudi Government Medical College & Hospital, gave a lecture on National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme.



On 24.02.2025, as a part of 100 days campaign on Pradhan Mantri TB Mukth Bharat Abhiyaan, Tuberculosis screening campaign was organised at the Port, through Mobile Medical Units, in collaboration with Thoothukudi District TB Centre of Government Thoothukudi Medical college.

EVENTS

76th Republic Day celebration



On 26.01.2025, the Port celebrated the 76th Republic Day at the Port's School ground. Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, unfurled the National Flag and delivered an inspirational Republic Day message.

EVENTS

Commencement of Link Conveyor System operations



Commencement of Link Conveyor System operations connecting the conveyor of the Tuticorin Thermal Power Station and the Port's coal yard on 26.01.2025.

Commission of two Harbour Mobile Cranes



Commencement of operations of two 100-Tonne Harbour Mobile Cranes by JM Baxi, on 26.01.2025.

EVENTS

Visit of Officials from Chennai Port Authority and Kamarajar Port Limited



On 24.01.2025, Shri S. Viswanathan, IAS, Deputy Chairperson, Chennai Port Authority, and Smt. J. P Irene Cynthia, IAS, Managing Director, Kamarajar Port Limited, along with the team members, visited the Port.

Meeting with officials of HD- Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering

On 07.02.2025, team of senior officers of the Port had an interactive meeting with HD- Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering, (Hyundai Group), facilitated by Ministry of Port, Shipping and Waterways and Invest India to explore possibilities of setting up of Ship Building facility at Tuticorin.



Visit of Dr. Malini V. Shankar (Retd.), Vice Chancellor, IMU



On 07.02.2025, Dr. Malini V. Shankar, IAS (Retd.), Vice Chancellor, Indian Maritime University, visited the Port. Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, made a detailed presentation on the Port operations, facilities, upcoming green hydrogen manufacturing facilities, and capacity augmentation initiatives of the Port.

EVENTS

Peer Audit Team meeting with Chairperson



On 11.02.2025, the Peer audit team for implementation of One Nation One Port Process Documentation at all Major Ports met Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson.

Welfare activity for Truck Drivers

On 12.02.2025, the Port in collaboration with the Indian Truck Drivers Welfare Consortium, organized a free eye checkup and general medical camp for the welfare of heavy vehicle drivers at the Truck Parking Terminal.



Interactive Meeting with Secretary General, IMO



On 21.02.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, participated in the interactive meeting with His Excellency, Mr. Arsenio Dominguez, Secretary General, International Maritime Organisation, chaired by Mr. T.K. Ramachandran, IAS, Secretary, MoPSW. The event was attended senior officials from organisations under MoPSW and various ministries.

EVENTS

Valedictory function of National Productivity week



On 26.02.2025, the valedictory function of National Productivity Week, was held at the Port. Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Dr. S. Richard, Principal, Grace Engineering College, Thoothukudi, delivered a special address on enhancing productivity.

Port receiving Award of excellence

On 27.02.2025, on behalf of the Port, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, received award of excellence for being the 3rd best Port of the country (in the category of Ports handling more than 5,00,000 TEUs of Containers) from Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, in the Post Budget Industry Meet 2025, organized by MoPSW in Mumbai.



Officials from the British Deputy High Commission visiting the Port



On 27.02.2025, Ms. Shalini Medepali, Deputy Head of Mission, and Ms. Sarreen Sara Solomon, Senior Trade Advisor, from the British Deputy High Commission, Chennai, visited the Port. They were warmly received by the senior officials of the Port.

EVENTS

Felicitation of Port Teams for achievements in All India Major Ports Championships



On 11.02.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, felicitated the medal winners of the All India Major Ports Shuttle Badminton Tournament organised by Mormugao Port Authority at Goa, from 3rd to 5th February 2025.



On 25.02.2025, the Chairperson, felicitated the players for emerging as runner-up in the All India Major Ports Basketball Championship organised by Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata, from 18th to 20th February 2025.



On 25.02.2025, the Chairperson, felicitated the players for emerging as runner-up in the All India Major Ports Football Championship held at Paradip from 12th to 16th February 2025.



On 24.03.2025, the Chairperson honored the Port's Kabaddi team for securing third place in All India Major Ports Kabaddi tournament organised by VOC Port from 19 to 21, March 2025.

EVENTS

Annual Day celebrations of the Port Schools



On 27.02.2025, the Annual Day celebrations of the Port Schools were held in the school auditorium. Dr. C. Peter Devadoss, Dean, University VOC College of Engineering, Thoothukudi, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Shri Ashoka Kumar Sahu, FA & CAO & President of VOC Port Educational Agency, presided over the function.

Celebrating the achievement of the Port being ranked 3rd best in India

On 28.02.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, along with Port officials, terminal operators and liners, celebrated the achievement of the Port being ranked the 3rd best Port in the country in the category of Ports handling more than 5,00,000 TEUs of containers.



Valedictory function of Hindi Day Celebrations



On 28.02.2025, the valedictory function of Hindi Day Celebrations was held at the Port. Smt. Shephali Purohit, W/o Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and addressed the gathering. The Chairperson along with Smt. Shephali Purohit, distributed prizes to the winners of various competitions held at the Port.

EVENTS

Inauguration of the Berth-7



On 03.03.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, formally inaugurated the berth-7 (Earlier PSA SICAL Container Terminal) as its own berth, in the presence of Shri Vikas Nair, IRS, Commissioner of Customs, Tuticorin, Shri S. Balakrishnan, Board Member and other senior officers of the Port, Terminal operators and Port users.

Mock Drill conducted by Medical Department

On 05.03.2025, Port's Medical Department participated in a mock drill conducted by M/s. Jan De Nul India Pvt. Ltd., at the Port, simulating workplace injury. The exercise focused on workplace trauma and Basic Life Support, ensuring preparedness for emergency response and enhancing safety protocols at the Port.



Commencing the work for Tamil Nadu Maritime Heritage Museum



On 10.03.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, formally commenced the work for establishing the Tamil Nadu Maritime Heritage Museum at the Port, in the presence of senior officials of the Port.

EVENTS

Safety awareness events marking 54th National Safety Day



On 04.03.2025, the inaugural event of the 54th National Safety Week was held at the Port. As a part of the event, the Safety flag was hoisted by Shri A.Ganesan, Chief Mechanical Engineer, in the presence of the Head of the Departments and senior officers.



On 05.03.2025, as part of the National Safety Week celebrations, the Port organized one-day Safety Awareness Training Programmes for cargo handling equipment operators, truck drivers, winchmen, signalmen, and foremen, and on 06.03.2025 for executives, supervisors, and tally clerks of Port users.

On 07.03.2025, the Port organized Essay Writing, Slogan Writing, and Drawing competitions for Port Employees and staff, Port Users, Schools, and Colleges on the theme, "Impacts of Digitalization & Artificial Intelligence (AI) on Worker's Safety and Health."



EVENTS

Safety awareness events marking 54th National Safety Day



On 11.03.2025, as part of the National Safety Week celebrations, the Port organized a workshop on 'First Aid Safety & Prevention of Occupational Diseases', in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Apex Health Centre and Sundaram Arulrhaj Hospital.

On 12.03.2025, the Port organized a Road Safety Campaign in collaboration with the Road Safety Patrol student units from various schools.



On 13.03.2025, the Port organized a workshop and exhibition on food safety. The event was inaugurated by Smt. Shephali Purohit, W/o Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson. Health check-ups were also organised for the participants.

EVENTS

Chintan Shivir 2025



Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, participated in the two-day Chintan Shivir 2025, inaugurated by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, on 06.03.2025. The Chairperson presented updates on cargo traffic and ongoing projects aimed at capacity augmentation at the Port.

CISF Raising Day

On 10.03.2025, the Port celebrated CISF Raising Day. Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, hoisted the CISF Flag at the CISF parade ground, took salute from the CISF contingent and emphasized CISF's role in safeguarding critical infrastructure.



EVENTS

Events as part of International Women's Day



On 11.03.2025, as part of the International Women's Day celebrations, the Port organized a health awareness lecture on Cervical Cancer and Breast Cancer. Dr. J. Preethi raised Breast Cancer awareness, and Dr. Nivedhitha Aarthya highlighted Cervical Cancer prevention.

On 12.03.2025, the Port organized an awareness lecture on 'Safety of Women'. Shri C. Madhan, IPS, Assistant Superintendent of Police, Tuticorin, delivered the lecture, highlighting key aspects of women's safety, legal provisions, and self-protection measures.



On 13.03.2025, the Port organized a Fitness and Weight Loss with Zumba Dance session, conducted by Ms. A. Joycy, a Certified Zumba Instructor and Weight Loss Specialist.

EVENTS

CSR Initiative



On 14.03.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, flagged-off the new CNG bus costing ₹32.61 lakhs, contributed by the Port, as part of Corporate Social Responsibility initiative, to the Harbour Higher Secondary School.

Valedictory function of the National Safety Week



On 14.03.2025, the valedictory function of the National Safety Week was held at the Port. Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, Chief Guest of the event, addressed the gathering and distributed the prizes to the winners of various competitions held for Port employees, Port users, school and college students.

EVENTS

40th All India Major Ports Kabaddi Tournament



The 40th All India Major Ports Kabaddi Tournament was held at the Port's School Ground from March 19 to 21, 2025. Shri Vikas Nair, IRS, Commissioner of Customs, Tuticorin, inaugurated the tournament on 19.03.2025.



On the final day, Smt. Shephali Purohit, W/o Shri Susanta kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, presented the trophies, and Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, delivered the chief guest address. Chennai Port won the title defeating Mumbai Port in the finals, while V.O. Chidambaranar and Paradip Port shared third place.



EVENTS

Meeting with British High Commission, Chennai



On 14.03.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, and senior Port officials engaged in an insightful video conference organized by British High Commission, Chennai, on the proposed off-shore wind terminal at the Port.

Participation in the event 'India's New Automotive Hub; Where Wheels of Progress Turn'

On 20.03.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, participated in the event 'India's New Automotive Hub; Where Wheels of Progress Turn', organised by The Automotive Component Manufacturers Association of India (ACMA) and Guidance Tamil Nādu at Chennai.



World Tuberculosis Day



On 24.03.2025, the Port marked World Tuberculosis Day with an outreach awareness program at the labour colony.

EVENTS

CISF Coastal Cyclothon 2025



On 30.03.2025, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, along with senior officers of the Port and the CISF contingent warmly received the 'CISF Coastal Cyclothon 2025' cyclist at the Port.



On 31.03.2025, the Chairperson, flagged-off the final leg of the East Coast Cyclothon from Tuticorin, as it continued towards its final destination, Kanyakumari. The East Coast Cyclothon commenced from Bakkhali, West Bengal on 7th March 2025 and culminated at Kanyakumari on 1st April 2025, covering 2789 Kilometres.

RETIREMENTS

January 2025



Shri S. Ramar,
Mazdoor,
Traffic Department

February 2025



Shri M. Peter FDO,
Chargeman (Mech),
Mechanical and Electrical
Engineering Department.

March 2025



Shri S. Ganesan,
Supervisor,
Traffic Department.



Shri T. Rathinasamy,
Supervisor,
Traffic Department.



Shri V. Baskar,
Sukkani,
Marine Department.



Smt. L. Kalavathy,
Storeman-cum-Pump
Operator,
Mechanical and Electrical
Engineering Department.



Shri S. Murugesan,
Winchman,
Traffic Department.