



PEARL

Digest

A Monthly Newsletter**Volume : I August, 2016**

S. Anantha Chandra Bose
Chairman

Chairman's Message

We look forward to keep the momentum going in the coming years to realise the Port's vision of becoming the preferred Indian Port. VOCPT continuously endeavour to innovate in various areas such as involving Port users to further improve the efficiency, planning and implementing strategies to take the customer satisfaction to new heights and in the process to surpass its own previous records in cargo handling.

This monthly newsletter for Port users is part of our ongoing efforts to ensure effective communication flow and to keep the stakeholders updated about the major developments and other announcements. This bulletin will also inform the Port users about the Port's activities, accomplishments and its progress in various initiatives, which are being undertaken as per the instructions from Ministry of Shipping.

I am doubly delighted to launch this newsletter on the occasion of our nation's Independence Day and I am sure that the Port employees and Port users will appreciate it. Please accept my warm and patriotic Independence Day greetings. Jai Hind!

S. Anantha Chandra Bose,
Chairman, VOCPT

*T*he year 2016-17 started off on a high note for VOCPT with the Ministry of Shipping rewarding the Port for its best performance under two key categories, achieving RFD targets and for recording highest growth rate in traffic in 2015-16. This recognition from the Ministry of Shipping and other awards received by the Port for its performance stands testimony to the ever increasing support of the Port users and the Port's focused efforts to scale new summits. I am also glad to note that VOCPT is just one among the seven major ports in India that have registered positive growth in the first quarter of 2016-17 as compared to the same period last year. During this period, the Port has handled 9.6 million tonnes cargo, which is 6% share in total cargo handled.



VOC Port bags two Annual Performance Awards

V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust, received two awards, one for achieving second highest growth in traffic for the year 2015-16 and another for attaining second position in RFD target achievement for the year 2015-16 among the 12 Major Ports. Hon'ble Union Minister for Shipping Shri Nitin Gadkari presented the awards to Shri S. Anantha Chandra Bose, Chairman and Shri S. Natarajan, Deputy Chairman of V.O.Chidambaranar Port Trust on 04.06.2016 at Goa.

V.O.Chidambaranar Port handled an all-time record Cargo Traffic of 36.85 Million Tonnes during the financial year 2015-16 and surpassed the previous year's achievement of 32.41 Million Tonnes, registering an increase of 13.70%. The Port also crossed the Ministry's target of 36.80 Million Tonnes by handling 36.85 Million Tonnes for the year 2015-16.

The Port has also performed exemplarily in achieving the various parameters of the Results Framework Document Targets (RFD) to enhance traffic throughput, to augment capacity of the Port, to provide efficient, prompt, safe and timely seaport service at optimum cost, improvement of financial parameters and administrative reforms.



VOCPT Chairman Shri S Anantha Chandra Bose and Deputy Chairman Shri S Natarajan receiving the awards from Hon'ble Union Minister for Shipping Shri Nitin Gadkari.

'Port of the Year' award

V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust was presented with the 'Port of the Year' award for Excellence in Cargo & Logistics Sector on 24.06.2016. Shri S. Anantha Chandra Bose, Chairman,

V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust received the award during the '8th South East Cargo and Logistics Awards 2016' awards ceremony held at Chennai.



VOCPT Chairman Shri S Anantha Chandra Bose receiving the 'Port of the Year' award for Excellence in Cargo & Logistics Sector.

VOCPT bags Cost Management award for the third time



V.O. Chidambaranar Port bagged the National Award for Excellence in Cost Management for the year 2015 from The Institute of Cost Accountants of India under the category of Public Service Sector-Small. This is the third time this Port is receiving the award, the earlier years being 2008 and 2012. The award was given for the exemplary performance of the Port towards optimisation of manpower, savings in electricity, implementation of Solar Energy Systems, reduction of overall cost of handling by mechanisation and improving efficiency and logistics support.



Sagarmala marks renaissance of Indian Ports

Sagarmala, a long term programme approved by the Union Cabinet on 25th March, 2015 has drawn up a National Perspective Plan (NPP) for Port Modernization & New Port Development, Port Connectivity Enhancement, Port-Led Industrial Development and Coastal Community Development as a first step for an integrated approach to port-led development.

The NPP developed after extensive interaction and consultation with concerned states/UT governments, stakeholder Ministries and related PSUs, has been approved by the National Sagarmala Apex Committee on 9th April, 2016.

As part of the NPP, total 173 projects have been initially identified across the programme objectives which will result in significant investment in maritime infrastructure, create employment, reduce logistics cost and boost merchandize exports over the next decade.

A projection has been made that the identified industrial cluster projects once implemented will enable creation of approximately 1 crore new jobs, including 40 lakh direct jobs and 60 lakhs indirect jobs in the next 10 years.

Port connectivity projects

Under the Sagarmala programme, Indian Port Rail Corporation Limited (IPRCL) has been entrusted with carrying out the feasibility and implementation of the following port connectivity projects for VOCPT :

- Providing railway connectivity from V.O.Chidambaranar Port Trust to the Power Plants.
- Providing railway track between Marshalling Yard and Hare Island at V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust.
- These projects are now at Survey/Detailed Project Report (DPR)/Land Acquisition stage.



Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India



Shri Nitin Gadkari
Hon'ble Union Minister
for Road Transport, Highways and Shipping

Cabinet approves incorporation of Sagarmala Development Company

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the incorporation of Sagarmala Development Company (SDC) under the Companies Act, 2013. SDC, under the administrative control of the Ministry of Shipping will provide equity support to the project Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) and funding support to the residual projects under the Sagarmala Programme.

SDC will be incorporated with an initial Authorized Share Capital of Rs. 1,000 Crore and a Subscribed Share Capital of Rs. 90 Crore.

Implementation of the identified projects will be taken up by the relevant Ports, State Governments / Maritime Boards, Central Ministries, mainly through private or PPP mode. SDC will provide equity support for the project SPVs and take up residual projects that cannot be funded by any other means/mode.



Integrated Incentive Scheme for Port users

In order to attract higher volume of cargo and to achieve Ministry's target and traffic throughput of 40.15 MMT for 2016-17, VOCPT has proposed a concession on wharfage and labour levy.

The incentive scheme will be extended to the Port users under the following heads:

1. Rebate in wharfage for incremental volume (for all cargoes other than coal for captive power plants and cement industries in Tuticorin and adjoining districts including coal handled in the dedicated berths, container cargo and liquid cargoes).
2. Concession for handling of steaming (non-coking) coal (foreign).
3. Rebate in labour levy for steaming non-coking coal (foreign) for the incremental volume based on output at Berth No. IX and VOC III & IV.
4. Rebate in wharfage for new cargo.
5. Concession in anchorage fee and wharfage for anchorage operation.
6. Concession on Vessel Related Charges (VRC) for Mainline Container Vessels and Feeder Container Vessels.



V.O.C. Port pioneers with CODEX

In a pioneering initiative to enable ease of doing business, India's first Container Digital Exchange (CODEX) was established recently at V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust. A joint initiative by Tuticorin Container Freight Station Association (TCFSA) and Kale Logistics Solutions Private Limited, CODEX platform enables seamless movement of container from CFS/ICD to Port and from Port to CFS/ICD.

Some of the key features of CODEX include online Codex pass generation (EXIM), direct visibility on EIR status, mile to mile tracking on container movement, Port pass registration requests and Port pass issuance control. This also provides great transparency and security as it records and displays the time taken by the vehicle to ply between the points.

"Following our Hon'ble Prime Minister's initiative of "Digital India", we have expanded the Port Gates and are introducing Toll Gate to enable Seamless access to the Port. CODEX- is first of its kind initiative at an Indian Port which promises to reduce the current documentation process from 2 hours to almost 1/4th its time and the Container Mobile App as an extension of CODEX will allow all stakeholders to Track the Container on real-time basis. The next step will be to enable other valuable functions on the mobile app, which will ensure that the stakeholders get the maximum benefit," Shri S Anantha Chandra Bose, Chairman, V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust commented.





Green Port Initiative at VOCPT

Giving importance to the environmental perspective for sustained growth, the Ministry of Shipping started 'Project Green Ports' to help in making the major ports across India cleaner and greener. 'Project Green Ports' will have two verticals - one is 'Green Ports Initiatives' related to environmental issues and second is 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan'.

The Green Port Initiatives include twelve initiatives which will be implemented under strict time bound fashion in order to achieve the targets. Accordingly, an Environment Management & Monitoring Plan (EMMP) was prepared for VOC Port in May 2015 and an environmental consultant was appointed for continuous monitoring of the pollution issues.

About 6,000 trees have been already planted in and around the Port premises and VOCPT has planned to plant another 5,000 saplings in this financial year. Apart from this, roof solar power system of 100KW at Administration building was installed on August 13, 2015 under power purchase mode.

Another 400KW solar power plant at roof top of Port Hospital, community centre, Port School, T-shed and warehouse are expected to be completed shortly. Already the Port has initiated action for installation of LED lights and has replaced 1,750 lights with LED so far and works are in progress to achieve 100% LED lighting by the end of this year.

Moreover, VOCPT has already established sewage treatment plant with a capacity of 1 MLD as part of the 'Project Green Ports.'

Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan

To accelerate the efforts to achieve universal sanitation coverage and to put focus on sanitation, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India launched the Swachh Bharat Mission on 2nd October 2014.

V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust is committed towards Swachh Bharat and organizes various activities such as conducting mass clean drive in the offices of all the departments and the work areas. The regular mass clean drives are monitored by a team of officers and surprise inspections are being done to ensure that Swachh Bharat is followed in letter and spirit.

As part of Swachh Bharat, special awareness programmes like street plays are also conducted to create awareness on the importance of sanitation.

To motivate the Port's efforts in Swachh Bharat, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Road Transport, Highways and Shipping Shri Pon Radhakrishnan participated in a mass cleaning drive on October 2, 2015. Port officers, employees, residents and public enthusiastically joined the Hon'ble Minister to bring in a Swachh Bharat.



To realise the vision of clean India, employees of VOCPT and other stakeholders regularly engage in the Swachh Bharat drive in the Port premises.



Shri Pon Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Shipping, Road Transport & Highways flagging-off the Swachh Bharat Awareness Procession at the Port Colony on 02.10.2015.



Shri Pon Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Shipping, Road Transport & Highways inaugurating the Mass Cleaning Drive organized in the Port Colony to mark the 'Swachh Bharat Mission' on 02.10.2015.



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