

PEARL Digest

A Monthly Newsletter

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VOC Port reiterates commitment to Port Users



Reiterating the V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust's commitment to Port Users, Chairman Shri S. Anantha Chandra Bose informed the users that the Port is actively implementing various ease of doing business initiatives to provide optimum services to the Port Users. The assurance was given by the Chairman during the Port Users' meeting held at the Administrative Office on October 26. Top executives of leading shipping companies and industries participated in this interactive meeting and offered suggestions to improve the user experience.

Chairing the meeting, Shri S. Anantha Chandra Bose said that the Port is steadfast in improving the

performance to ensure efficient, safe and timely service at optimal cost. "V.O. Chidambaranar Port has committed itself to comply with the requirements of the Port Users and other user focused programmes being introduced by the Ministry of Shipping from time to time," he said. According to him, the Port is constantly endeavouring towards improving its performance.

Requesting the active participation of Port Users in utilizing the Port land, the Chairman explained that this would give a fillip to economic activity and lead to a win-win situation. Top executives of the shipping companies, while putting forth constructive suggestions endorsed the various initiatives taken by the Ministry of Shipping, which has resulted in congenial atmosphere in the shipping sector.

Port Users' meetings are convened regularly by V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust to ensure that the suggestions and representations given by the Port Users are attended to in a time bound manner. Traffic Manager Shri U. Rajendran, Chief Mechanical Engineer Shri P. Ravindran and Financial Adviser & Chief Accounts Officer Smt. S. Shanthi participated in the meeting and interacted with the Port Users.





Mechanization of cargo evacuation on stream, well ahead of schedule

The much awaited Mechanization of Cargo Evacuation from the deep draft Berth No.IX to coal yard is now in operation at the V.O. Chidambaranar Port. With the commissioning of this project, the Port reached another milestone by beating deadlines. The ₹ 92.72 crore project with the projected handling capacity of 5.92 MTPA, though scheduled to commence in January 2017, has been commissioned three months ahead of the schedule. As per the license agreement with M/s. Chennai Radha Engineering Works Pvt. Ltd., January 12, 2017 is the scheduled date of completion.

Prior to the commissioning of this mechanization project, coal was evacuated by conventional method like evacuation using front end loaders and trucks. This resulted in slower process of evacuation affecting productivity and ultimately increased the turnaround time of the vessels, a key performance indicator for any Port. Apart from this, the conventional method also resulted in wastage and pollution.

As per the present mechanization of cargo evacuation, coal is transferred to conveyors through hoppers to interim stack yard. Among the benefits of this project include increase in berth productivity, reduction in vessel turnaround time, drop in pollution level and no wastage of cargo. It may also be noted that ever since the mechanization of cargo evacuation went on stream, movement of trucks inside the Port too have been reduced enabling free flow of traffic.

Another important advantage of the mechanization of cargo evacuation is that there is no stoppage of unloading operation of cargo vessels. About 15 vessels have been handled so far using this state-of-the-art mechanization system, which consists of 4 mobile hoppers and a closed conveyor system (conveyor length – 2.85 km). Apart from this, it is also equipped with dust suppression system, safety system and fire fighting system.





Towards a Swachh Bharat

Port organizes mass cleaning campaign

Standing by the Government of India's Swachh Bharat Mission, V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust on October 2 organized a mass cleaning campaign involving all the stakeholders. The Swachh Bharat Mission, which has gathered momentum throughout the length and breadth of the country, is followed in letter and spirit by the Port on all days. Shri S. Natarajan, Deputy Chairman, V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust administered the Swachhta Pledge to create awareness on the commitment, the society should have towards cleanliness and dedicating time to ensure cleanliness.

Shri C. Selvaraj, Trustee, Shri Navdeep Raj, DIG and Commanding Officer, Indian Coast Guard Station, Tuticorin, Heads of the Departments, Officers, employees, Port School teachers, students and CISF Unit took the pledge before embarking on a grand awareness procession. Residents of Port Colony were sensitized on the Swachh Bharat Mission through public address systems and distribution of pamphlets. Street plays were also organized in various parts of the Port Colony, which

underlined the importance of cleanliness and the steps that have to be taken towards a Swachh Bharat.

Following this, a massive mass cleaning drive was carried out at Port Quarters, Port Hospital, Administrative Office, and in wharf and other operational areas by Port School students, Officers and employees of the Port and other stakeholders.

To accelerate the efforts to achieve universal sanitation coverage and to put focus on sanitation, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched the ambitious Swachh Bharat Mission (Clean India Mission) on October 2, 2014, on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's 145th Birth Anniversary. Swachh Bharat Mission aims to achieve a Clean India by 2019, as a fitting tribute to the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust, fully aware of its social responsibility, continues to engage the community in bringing out collective behavioural change through various awareness generation programmes.



New cargo handling records at VOC Port

Stone aggregate

V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust created new record by loading 43,510 tonnes of stone aggregate to the vessel MV.Thetis at Berth No.III in September surpassing the February 2015 record of loading 40,000 tonnes stone aggregate to the vessel MV. Capt Nazih. M/s. Navship Marine Services Pvt. Ltd., Tuticorin is the Vessel Agent and M/s. Shiva Agencies is the Stevedoring Agent. Incidentally, it was a double record, as 20,900 tonnes of stone aggregate was loaded to MV.Thetis on September 16, 2016 is the highest volume of stone aggregate loaded in a single day so far in the Port, the earlier record being 13,053 tonnes loaded to MV. Capt Nazih in February 24, 2015.

DAP

The Port created another record in September by handling 14,385 tonnes of DAP from the vessel MV. Hongyuan at the deep draft Berth No.IX surpassing the eight year old previous record of 13,756 tonnes handled from the vessel MV. Pacific Future on June 6, 2008. Incidentally, this is also

the highest volume of DAP handled in a single day so far in this Port. M/s. InterOcean Shipping Pvt. Ltd is the Vessel Agent and M/s. PSTS Logistics Pvt. Ltd. is the Stevedoring Agent.

Coal

The handling of 33,760 tonnes of coal from MV.Js Sanaga at North Cargo Berth-I on September 29 is the highest volume of coal handled at this berth. M/s. Sical Logistics Pvt. Ltd. is the Vessel Agent and M/s. TRF Ltd. is the Stevedoring Agent. The earlier record at NCB-I is 30,180 tonnes of coal handled from MV. Astra Perseus in February 2016.

Shri S. Anantha Chandra Bose, Chairman, V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust in his message thanked all the stakeholders, Officers and employees who contributed to achieve these records. He also requested the Officers and employees to strive to further improve the performance and productivity.





Hindi Day

Port propagates implementation of Official Language Policy



V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust celebrated Hindi Day on October 21, with the view to generate awareness and promote the use of Hindi in official work. Hindi Day is celebrated every year by the Port with the active participation of large number of employees. V.O. Chidambaranar Port is actively engaged in propagating the implementation of Official Language Policy.

The Official Language section of the Port organizes various training programmes throughout the year enabling the Port to adhere to the directives of Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs. As part of the Hindi Day celebrations, various competitions were conducted for Port Officials, Officials of other Government establishments and school children in Tuticorin to propagate the Official Language.

Shri S. Anantha Chandra Bose, Chairman, V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust presided over the function.



In his address, he appreciated the initiatives taken by the Official Language section to motivate the Officers and employees to use Hindi in their day to day work. He called for the active participation of everyone to achieve the targets set by Department of Official Language.

Shri Navdeep Raj, DIG and Commanding Officer, Indian Coast Guard Station, Tuticorin participated as Chief Guest



and appreciated the efforts taken by the Port to enable the Port Officers and employees to learn Hindi and for the steps taken to impart Hindi education in Port Schools. He also distributed the prizes to winners of various competitions like Hindi typing, preparing notes and drafting in Hindi, elocution, singing and Rangoli.

Shri S. Natarajan, Deputy Chairman participated as Guest of Honour and emphasized the need for learning Hindi. In his address, he motivated the employees to learn the Official Language and to use Hindi as a tool to spread the ideas to other parts of the country. Dr. K. Jeyakumar, Hindi Officer of the Port presented the Annual Report for the year 2015-16, which highlighted the various initiatives taken by the Official Languages section for implementation of Official Language in the Port.

Shri C. Mohan, Secretary, welcomed the gathering and Smt. A. Dheepiga, Law Officer offered Vote of thanks. As part of the celebrations, various cultural programmes in Hindi were also organized by the Hindi Cell.

U.S. Commercial Service Officer visits Port



Shri John Fleming, Principal Commercial Officer from U.S. Consulate General Chennai visited the Port on October 7, 2016. Shri S. Anantha Chandra Bose, Chairman, V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust expounded on the growth story of the Port and its achievements in his interaction with the U.S. Commercial Service Officer. After the meeting, Shri John Fleming was taken around the Port premises by the officers. The officers explained about the various Port infrastructure development works in progress, operation of mechanization of cargo evacuation from the deep draft Berth No.IX to coal yard and the recently commissioned Shore Power facility.

Pleased with the services provided by the Port and the various environment friendly initiatives taken under the 'Green Port Initiatives', Shri John Fleming said that he is looking forward to engage with the Port eventually.



Meeting the industry and trade representatives later in Tuticorin, he explained them about how U.S. Commercial Service can help to source U.S. products and technologies. He also spoke about investing in the U.S. through the Select USA program.

Port Users' column

R. Edwin Samuel, Founder & CEO, Pearl Shipping Agencies



I am very glad to know that V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust has launched a monthly newsletter and two issues have already been published. It is a laudable initiative as the newsletter will be a link between the Port and the User community. I like to recall here and thank the efforts of local entrepreneurs and the Users of the erstwhile Old

Port in the making of the New Port in Tuticorin, which was declared as the 10th Major Port in the year 1974.

V.O. Chidambaranar Port is consistently breaking its own records year on year. The phenomenal achievements by the Port were made possible because of the cordial

relationship and close co-ordination between the Port Users, customer-friendly & proactive Port and Customs officials and the labour force. Another USP of this Port is its clean environment and many of our overseas Principals have made a lot of favourable comments in this respect.

It is very heartening to note that the Chairman and his team are taking many Green Initiatives like planting of trees and installation of solar power systems in the Port premises, which is very futuristic and will reduce lot of carbon footprints. To take the Port to new heights, we believe that it is essential for all the stakeholders to see that the Outer Harbour Development Project is expedited so that VOC Port will become a container hub port in the region.

Let us all work together to realize the vision of making VOC Port not only the preferred Port in India but also in the sub-continent.



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