



Shri Mansukh Mandaviya plants a sapling at the Mormugao Port

Shri Mansukh Mandaviya visits Mormugao Port Trust

Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of State for Shipping (I/c) and Chemicals & Fertilizers paid an acquaintance visit to the Mormugao Port officials on September 26, 2019.

The Minister visited the wharf area, finger berths, POL berth, JSW and Adani areas, WISL area and the cruise berth terminal. During the visit, officials appraised the Minister about the working of the port and the functions of its various parts.

To ensure a better understanding of the port's working, the Minister was taken on a cruise on the tug "M.V. Ocean Spirit" and shown details of vessel handling at the various berths. Subsequently, discussions were held with the port HODs and the Chairman regarding the myriad port operations in addition to the cruise terminal complex proposed to be constructed at Berths 1 and 2.



Kolkata Port awards the Ideabox Challenge winners and participants



Ideabox Challenge winners awarded at Kolkata Port Trust

With a view to seek innovative ideas and out-of-the-box solutions to improve existing processes, increase revenue, boost tourism and implement a green energy model, KoPT launched the Ideabox Challenge. Over 200 ideas, covering various aspects of port operations were received of which the top three winners were awarded a cash prize of Rs. 50,000 each while six consolation prizes were also given out to encourage those who had participated in the challenge.

The Kolkata Port Trust organised an award ceremony for the winners who were felicitated by Shri Gopal Krishna, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Shipping, in presence of Shri Vinit Kumar, IRSEE, Chairman, Kolkata Port Trust.

Award winning ideas included increased utilisation of the land under dilapidated quarters, construction of rooftop cafes on riverfront warehouses and improvement of machinery of the Lock Gates at Netaji Subhash Dock (NSD) among others. The idea that garnered the maximum attention was to hire amphibious boats as pilot launches for maritime operations, thus, not only improving the pilot transit time but also aid in transit of the pilots from the shore to the ship and vice versa.



Signing of SOP between Bangladesh & India to open 8 routes to North East through Bangladesh



Shri Mansukh Mandaviya addressing the media about the benefits of the SOP between India & Bangladesh

Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of State for Shipping (I/c) and Chemicals & Fertilizers recalled how the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's foreign policy initiative concerning the use of Chattogram and Mongla Ports in Bangladesh for cargo movement to and from India will ensure lower costs of shipments to and from the country's Northeastern states in addition to reducing time and distance for transport of goods.

A Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) was signed and exchanged between India and Bangladesh during the official visit of HE Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister, People's Republic of Bangladesh on October 05, 2019. According to the agreement, Bangladesh will allow India the use of both Chattogram and Mongla ports for cargo movement through its territory via waterways, rail, road or multi-modal transport.

The Agreement includes eight routes to enable access of North East Region through Bangladesh. These include:

- Chattogram/Mongla Port to Agartala (Tripura) via Akhura and vice versa
- Chattogram/Mongla Port to Dawki (Meghalaya) via Tamabil and vice versa
- Chattogram/Mongla Port to Sutarkandi (Assam) via Sheola and vice versa
- Chattogram/Mongla Port to Srimantpur (Tripura) via Bibirbazar and vice versa

As per the agreement, the three landlocked Indian states, viz.,

Assam, Meghalaya and Tripura will have access to open sea trade routes from Chattogram and Mongla ports through the Indian ports. Currently, cargo transportation through the Indo Bangladesh Protocol (IBP) waterway route from Kolkata/Haldia to the North East is limited to 2000 tonne vessels. With this SOP in place, larger ships destined for North East can be plied for carrying cargo at Chattogram and Mongla ports, thereby, increasing trade volumes and reducing logistic costs.

While imports to North East would include construction material, iron & steel, fertilizer, consumer goods, POL, cement, etc., exports from the North East to various parts of India would contain food grains, fruits, organic products, tea, fish, jute, etc. through the Chattogram and Mongla ports.

Agreed routes



Ministry of Shipping organizes 17th meeting of Maritime States Development Council



Shri Mansukh Mandaviya at the Maritime States Development Council meeting at New Delhi

The Ministry of Shipping organized the 17th meeting of the Maritime States Development Council (MSDC) at New Delhi on October 15, 2019. During the meeting arranged to develop a National Grid for ports based on synergy between India's major and minor ports, Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of State for Shipping (I/c) and Chemicals & Fertilizers called for revival of the ports that are not yet operational. Shri Mandaviya said, "There are 204 minor ports in the country, of which only 44 are currently functional. All these ports have been centres of maritime activity in the past, and if revived, they can once again become important centres of sea trade. The Government is looking at developing synergy between the major and minor ports so that together they can bring port-led development in the country."

Emphasizing that the development plan would be ready within six months, an extensive study would be carried out for each port's revival by identifying the specific cargo associated with it along with the downstream industry. The states would have access to the study findings prepared by the Centre to enable the development of non-functional minor ports and ensure their proper functioning.

High logistics costs have resulted in an increased focus on coastal shipping and inland waterways sector. The Ministry is now planning the expansion of port capacity through the implementation of well-conceived infrastructure development projects, increasing the efficiency of port operations through

the implementation of a package of recommendations to cut time and cost, digitization of processes to reduce and finally eliminate human interface and to strongly address environment-related concerns. Further, officials attending the meet discussed issues like developing common and comprehensive guidelines for inland waterways barges to ensure seamless movement of barges of different states in coastal waters.

The issue of port security was also discussed. Shri Mandaviya ensured international levels of security at every port in the country.



DG Shipping celebrates its 70th Foundation Day



Shri Mansukh Mandaviya at the 70th Foundation Day of the Directorate General of Shipping

The Directorate General of Shipping celebrated its 70th Foundation Day on September 03, 2019 amidst much celebration at an event in Mumbai. At the event organized to acknowledge its contributions to the shipping sector, Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of State for Shipping (I/c) and Chemicals & Fertilizers along with other officials discussed ways to encourage safe, secure and pollution-free shipping.

Trainee cadets, including women cadets, representing maritime training institutions from the four regions of the country marched past the VIP at a parade held in his honour. Also on parade were a contingent each of the Indian Navy and the Indian Coast Guard, symbolizing the close co-operation between DG Shipping, Indian Navy and the Coast Guard.



Joint meeting held between IPA and NTCPCWC



Training programme on the CIRIA manual at the joint meeting between IPA & NTCPCWC

A two-day training on the CIRIA manual was scheduled on September 12-13, 2019 at IIT Madras. The training programme inaugurated by Shri P. Ravindran, Chairman, Chennai Port was presided over by Prof Ravindra Getu, Dean ICSR, IIT Madras. The focus of the training programme was on issues and gaps on current practices in port management. Additionally, discussions were held regarding the CIRIA manual and guidelines for its use, benefits and best practices.

Lectures were held on the above point as invited speakers and experts from the Dredging Corporation of India and Department of Ocean Engineering, IIT Madras presented their opinions during the session. The participants were also introduced to the NTCPCWC developed standardized Excel tool that is currently being used inhouse. The web-based tool will be further developed for ports use in ports.

The programme members received positive feedback as they identified the need for more such training sessions and discussions surrounding dredging estimates and operations in future.





Shri Mansukh Mandaviya addressing Deendayal Port officials at SIPC, Gandhidham

Shri Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurates seminar on Furniture Park at Deendayal Port Trust

Shri Mansukh Mandaviya, Minister of State for Shipping (I/c) and Chemicals & Fertilizers, inaugurated a seminar titled "Investment Opportunities for Furniture Park" at SIPC, Gandhidham on October 05, 2019. Speaking to the officials attending the conference, Mandaviya said that the proposed furniture park, when completed, would open the door to opportunities for the development of furniture and associated industries. The proposed park would be spread over 100 acres of land and is a part of the "Smart Industrial Port City (SIPC)" project planned over an area of 1,430 acres in proximity to the port.

The SIPC project is based on the port's three-pronged vision of connectivity, sustainability and identity. Designed to boost economic growth, the completion of the project is expected to usher in employment opportunities while supporting the port's aim to provide holistic living to the people living at or near the port.

The seminar was graced by domestic and international investors, industry experts in addition to port officials who highlighted the multiple opportunities available to the local population post the completion of the park project.

