



Sagar Sandesh

Guiding Spirit to Shipping Industry

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FFFAI hosts Webinar on New Developments and opportunities on INSTC route and Shahid Beheshti Port in Chabahar



Mr Shankar Shinde, Chairman, FFFAI

On January 18, 2023, the Federation of Freight Forwarders Association (FFFAI) conducted a Webinar to share important developments on new routes from India to CIS countries under International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) and how it can open new opportunities for the EXIM community. The webinar was

addressed by Mr. Shankar Shinde, Chairman FFFAI and Mr. Sohel Kazani, Executive Committee Member, FFFAI to present the recent developments on INSTC route. Mr. Sunil Mukundan, MD, Indian Global Ports; Mr. Hossien Habibolahi, MD, India Ports Global CFZ and Mr. Shailesh Makawana, Indian Ports Global also made presentations at this webinar to provide details on the progress of Chabahar Port. The webinar was attended by a large number of FFFAI Members and logistics professionals from across the country.

The International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) is a 7,200-km-long multi-modal network of ship, rail, and road routes for moving freight between India, Iran, Azerbaijan, Russia, Central Asia, and Europe. The route

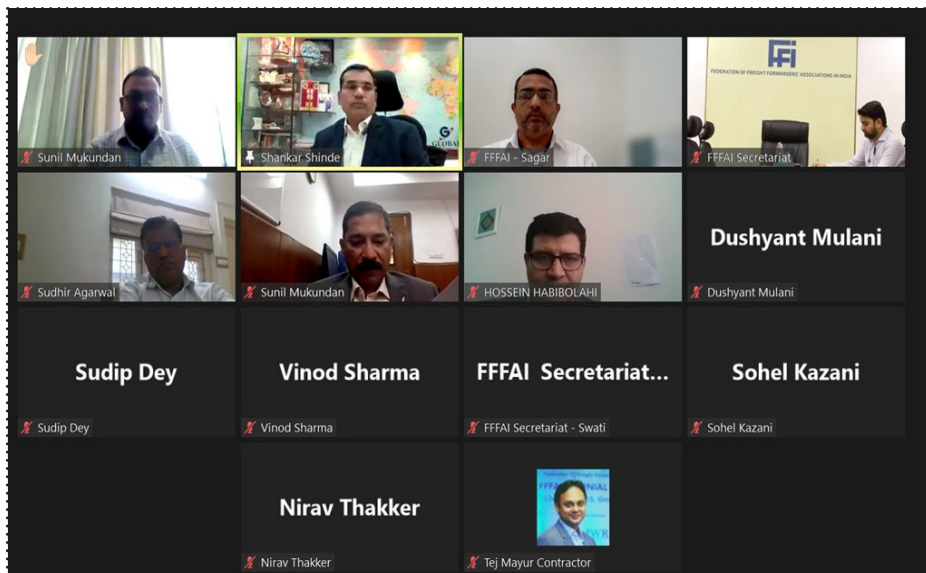
primarily involves moving freight from India, Iran, Azerbaijan, and Russia via ship, rail, and road.

Mr. Sunil Mukundan and Mr. Shailesh Makwana highlighted the facilities and benefits available at Shahid Beheshti Port of Chabahar Port, its advantages as



a transit point, and incentives/ discount schemes on warehousing and terminal handling charges.


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Webinar on new developments on INSTC Route and Chabahar Port organised by FFFAI on January 18, 2023

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FFFAI hosts Webinar on New Developments..... From Page : 1

At this webinar, the FFFAI Chairman appealed to members to participate in movements through INSTC for CIS/ Russia destinations which can also further compliment European destinations. He also urged to take benefits of discounted charges by Port JNPT / Kandla & Shahid Beheshti Port (which is an Indian Port) viable to be utilized by the Exim trade people. In this new opportunity sector, the Logistics service providers should operate on untapped markets. This is pertinent to mention that FFFAI has done a study on the viability of INSTC Route and Chabahar Port with TIR, which has been submitted to the Government of India.

Mr. Sohel Kazani highlighted the new developments on the INSTC route in terms of increase in volume, movements of vessels, corrections in freight charges, and decreasing

costs. Also, there are new developments in the banking sector concerning this route. Mr. Kazani also emphasized on the recent developments after the new political regime in Afghanistan under Taliban.

Highlights of new developments on INSTC Route include:

- Total 102 projects are identified to develop the INSTC routes, including the following:

- 20 railway transport; 59 roads; 7 border crossing points with related infrastructure; 8 seaports, 4 inland waterways; 4 shipbuilding in Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Russia, and in Turkmenistan.

- **Participation of New Vessels operators provides regular service to IRAN**

- **Banking:** Yes Bank and UCO Bank have formed a partnership with two Russian banks. Through this deal, both

of these institutions will get India closer to conducting business with Russia.

UCO Bank has partnered with Gazprom Bank, while Yes Bank has also formed an arrangement with the Commercial Bank of Moscow in Russia.

- **FIATA Bill of Lading through FFFAI is made available to members:** Negotiable FIATA Multimodal Transport Bill of Lading (FBL) is now available in a secured digital format through TMSs and other platforms.

Mr. Vinod Sharma concluded the webinar by proposing a **vote of thanks** to the Chairman FFFAI and all other speakers/dignitaries for sharing their deep insights and valuable information on port development and connectivity. He also thanked all participants for showing their keen interest in exploring the INSTC route.

74th Indian Republic Day celebration at IMU-HQ and other campuses.



As India marked its 74th Republic Day this year, Indian Maritime University also celebrated a day to remember at its Headquarters in Chennai and other IMU campuses. Dr. Malini V. Shankar, Vice Chancellor unfurled the Tiranga in the presence of IMU Staff and faculty members at HQ. While IMU students from other campuses extended respect and salute to tricolor.



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