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Monday, August 21, 2023 Voyage 12 Wave 081

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Make in India initiative launched



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Unifeeder adds **NhavaSheva**



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Global **Maritime Summit to be** a turning



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Govt may come out with **logistics cost** estimate by Sept

Developing Inland Waterways for Commercial Navigation-FFFAI Support

FEDERATION OF FREIGHT FORWARDER'S ASSUCIATION IF (National Apex Body of Customs Brokers' Associations in

Mr. Vinod Sharma, Hon. Secretary, FFFAI felicitates Mr. Arvind Kumar, Director, Inland Waterways Authority of India in presence of FFFAI Chairman Mr. Shankar Shinde, Chairman Elect Mr. Dushyant Mulani and Immediate Past Chairman Mr.A.V. Vijayakumar.

he Federation of Freight Forwarders **Associations** in India (FFFAI) organised a hybrid meeting on the Role of Inland Waterways and Land Ports with the objective of promoting cross-border trade by effective utilization of multimodal transport systems. The meet held on August 4, 2023, in Kolkata, was addressed by Mr. Shankar Shinde, Chairman, FFFAI; Mr. Aditya Mishra, IPS, Chairman, Land Port Authority of India; Mr. Arvind Kumar, Director, Inland Waterways Authority of India; Mr. Dushyant Mulani, Chairman-Elect, FFFAI. Mr. **Sudip Dey Vice Chairman FFFAI** to elaborate on the importance and recent developments on Inland Waterways and land ports in facilitating international trade, especially in the East/Northeast region of India.

According to Mr. Shinde, Inland Waterways as well as surface transport networks are the most crucial modes to expand both interstate as well as cross-border trade especially in East & Northeast India with ease and cost-effective manner. He commended the initiatives of the Inland Waterways Authority of India and the Land Port Authority of India in facilitating international trade. "The initiatives of the Government of India in promoting inland waterways and land ports to increase cross-border trade are highly commendable. FFFAI is committed to support the Government's initiatives in this regard for the larger interest of the EXIM trade," he emphasized. Mr. Shinde appealed to the FFFAI members as well as the freight forwarding/logistics industry fraternity to explore these costeffective transportation modes at the optimum level. He also pointed out the government's initiatives on creating the infrastructure, connectivity, and bilateral talks to increase EXIM trade with the South Asia & ASEAN countries. And such initiatives are not only limited to expanding our Indian trade but also support the 3rd country's transshipment cargo facilitation with landlock countries providing Indian Gateway ports.

Developments Inland **Waterways:**

In his presentation, Arvind Kumar highlighted the recent developments in the Inland Waterways front. He stressed the fact that Inland Water Transport (IWT) is the most economical

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Developing Inland Waterways for From Page: 1

especially for bulk cargo like coal, iron ore, cement, food grains, and fertilizer. Presently, it remains under-utilized at a share of 2% in India's modal mix. The government intends to increase the share of IWT to 5% as per Maritime India Vision (MIV)-2030. He also emphasized on various economic and environmental benefits of IWT.

Mr. Kumar elaborated on development work under Jal Marg Vikas Project-II (Arth Ganga) which is based on the principles of the sustainable development model energize to activities, economic which will lead to inclusive growth and play a key role in improving the livelihoods of the population with transportation of goods under PIWT&T (Protocol the first Indian cargo ship.

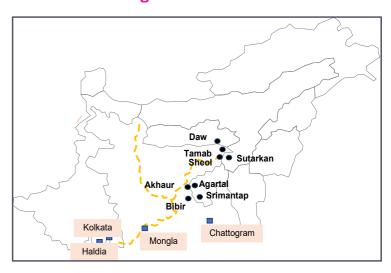
mode of transportation, and passengers (including on Inland Water Transit tourist) through National Waterways No. 1(River Ganga).

> On new projects pertaining to connectivity, Mr. Kumar stated that there are several projects underway which include multimodal connectivity and infrastructure at Jogighopa & Pandu in Assam. These include connectivity to Pandu from NH (length 1150m), development of a Repair Slipway at Pandu, Intermodal Terminal Dhubri (Assam), at floating Jetties at Dhubri, Jogighopa, Pandu, Uzan Bazar, Silghat, Biswanathghat, etc. He highlighted the developments regarding ease of navigation.

Further, he highlighted the recent addition of new Ports of Call and routes the in India and Bangladesh and Trade). According to IWAI, with 7 new ports of call in addition to the existing 6 on each side along with the addition/ extension of 2 waterway routes in addition to the existing 8 routes under PIWT&T between India and Bangladesh, accessibility of IWT mode for trade between India and Bangladesh is expected to increase and result in the growth of traffic on NWs.

On the expansion of trade to ASEAN countries, Mr. Kumar pointed outthat the Union Minister for Ports, Shipping Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal, and Myanmar's Deputy Prime Minister Admiral Tin Aung San on on 09th May'2023 inaugurated the Sittwe Port in Myanmar and received

Use of Chattogram/Mongla (Bangladesh) for Use of **India's Transit Cargo:**



Developments regarding Land Ports:

India's Land Ports are strategically located at Key Entry and Exit points, facilitating trade neighboring countries. Currently, there are 12 land ports including operational and planned at the India-Pakistan, India-Bangladesh, India-Nepal,

India-Myanmar and Elaborating on borders. the recent developments of Land Port facilities Mr. Aditya Mishra informed that Land Port Authority India (LPAI) implemented various digital initiatives to align with the 'Digital India' mission and reduce logistics costs.

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These digital measures aim to enhance port operations optimize logistics sector efficiency. "With a vision for the future, LPAI is in the process to develop and deploy the Land Port Management System. A single window system that brings all stakeholders under one roof, hence bringing about transparency and trust among all has been initiated. Digitalization of all trade and passengerrelated procedures, such as parking, warehousing, clearances, and payment of all charges are being done," he shared.

Mr. Mishra also informed that LPAI is implementing advanced technology like biometric recognition, advanced scanners, and state of art surveillance cameras with analytics to realize the vision of a digital security and surveillance system, ensuring 24/7 coverage and reducing potential risks at land ports.

Pondering on the new development on new transit routes concerning Northeast India he stated that pointed

Transit Agreement between India and Bangladesh. According to agreement, the National Board of Revenue (NBR) of Bangladesh issued a "permanent transit order" on 25th April 2023. Under agreement, major ports included are Dawki-Tamabil-Chattogram Port; Sutarkandi- Sheola-Chattogram Port; Agartala-Akhaura- Chattogram Port; Dawki- Tamabil- Mongla Port; Sutarkandi- Sheola-Mongla Port and Agartala-Akhaura- Mongla Port.

Regarding connectivity on BBIN (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, and Nepal) road routes Mr. Mishra highlighted the landmark BBIN Motor Vehicle Agreement to facilitate the seamless flow of passenger, personal, and cargo vehicular traffic between and among the BBIN countries.

Land Ports fall along the major BBIN trade routes, which corridor Kolkata-Petrapoleare: Dhaka; Chhatogram-Sabroom-Agartala-Sylhet;

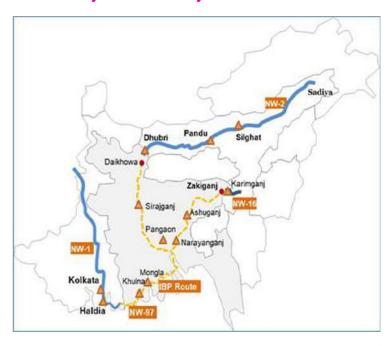
out the recently concluded Agartala-Dhaka-Petrapole-Kolkata; Kakarvitta-Siliguri-Guwahati; Kakarvitta-Siliguri-Dhaka; Phuntsholing-Siliguri-Dhaka-Agartala-Sabroom and Phuntsholing-Siliguri-Kakarvitta.

> The Meet, which was participated by all Office Bearers and members of FFFAI including a large number of logistics industry stakeholders from across the country, was concluded with Mr. Sohel Kazani sharing users' perspectives connectivity infrastructure requirements and a vote of thanks from the FFFAI Chairman Elect Mr. Dushyant Mulani. He also emphasized costeffective Inland Waterways as well as surface networks cross-border trade judiciously utilizing multimodal transportation. Urging for better navigation on inland waterways and streamlining the transit at the Land Port Borders Mr. Mulani lauded the recent initiatives of IWAI and LPAI including digital initiatives to facilitate the cargo movement across the border.

Potential Land Ports in NER:



Connectivity with Waterways



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Make in India initiative launched

MARINE NEWS

Another Make in India initiative has taken off with the launching of a second missile cum ammunition

barge at a private ship yard near Visakhapatnam on

august 18th according to an official release.

VISAKHAPATNAM Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

econd Missile Cum (MCA) Ammunition Barge, Yard 76 (LSAM launched was Cmde G Ravi, Warship Production Superintendent (Visakhapatnam) Guttenadeevi, East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh at the launch site of M/s SECON Engineering Projects Pvt Ltd.

With all major and auxiliary equipment/ systems sourced from indigenous manufacturers, this Barge is proud flag bearer of "Make in India" initiative of Ministry of Defense.

Contract for construction of 08 x MCA Barge was concluded with M/s SECON Engineering Projects Pvt Ltd, Visakhapatnam, MSME. in consonance with "Aatmanirbhar Bharat" initiatives of the Government of India.

This Barge is being built with a service life of 30 years. The availability of MCA Barges will provide impetus to Operational commitments of the Navy by facilitating Transportation, Embarkation Disembarkation of articles / ammunition to Naval Ships both alongside jetties and at outer harbors.