



Sagar Sandesh

Guiding Spirit to Shipping Industry

Maritime Tabloid English Weekly Thrice E - Paper

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Golden Jubilee Year 2022 - Nautical Institute

Nautical Institute's Golden Jubilee Year 2022 ended with the 12th and final International Seminar at Hotel Taj Malabar, Cochin, on 2nd Dec 2022. Nautical Institute, **India South West, Cochin** organised the event.

The event was attended by Seafarers from the Indian Navy, Coast Guard, and Merchant Marine. Speakers were carefully chosen from among the doyens of Industry, Experts from various fields, Fellow Mariners and NI Members.



NI India SW Chairman, **Capt Tom Joseph**, FNI welcomed the gathering, **Vice Admiral MA Hampiholi**, AVSM, NM, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Naval Command of Indian Navy was the Chief Guest who delivered the Key Note address. NI Theme Address was delivered by **Capt Ivor Goveas**, FNI, Executive Board Member of NI, and Guest of Honour **Dr M Beena**, IAS, Chair Person of Cochin Port Authority addressed the August audience,

and **Er Deepak Sasikumar**, AFNI, Treasurer, NI India SW delivered the Vote of Thanks.

The Seminar was split into 4 Sessions:

Session 1 - Administration



Administration

Chairman: Capt Kapil Dev Bahl, FNI, Chairman, NI India West, Mumbai

Speakers:

- Mr CJ Mathew**, IRS, Hon'ble Member(Technical) CESTAT, Mumbai
- Vice Admiral MP Muralidharan**, AVSM & Bar, NM (Retd)
- Dr B. Chengappa**, Member Secretary, Institute of Contemporary Studies, Bengaluru

Session 2 - Stake Holders



Stake Holders

Chairman: Capt Joseph Alappat, FNI, Dy Conservator, Cochin Port

Speakers:

Indian Ship Owners

- Mr Clayton Pinto**, CEO, 7 Island Shipping Ltd, Mumbai



Turn to page -2 >>

Eastaway



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Golden Jubilee Year 2022 - Nautical.... From Page : 1

2) **Ms Arathy Narayanan**, MICS, ABS Marine Ltd, Chennai
International Ship Owners

3) **Capt Ivor Goveas**, FNI, Director, Willis Towers & Watson, London

Session 3 - Services Sector



Services Sector

Chairman: **Capt Krish Sivaraman**, FNI, Former NI Global President

Speakers:

1) **Mr Aditya Krishnamurthy**, Base & Mitra Company, Mumbai

2) **Ms Reshma Nilofer**, MNI, Pilot and Young NI

Session 4 - Human Element



Human Element

Chairman: **Dr KA Simon**, Director, Alberts Maritime Institute, Cochin

Speakers:

1) **Capt Mohan Naik**, FNI, Director, Dynacom Tankers Management Ltd, Mumbai and Chairman, Mission Seafarers Association, India
2) **Ms Shradha Goley**, Founder Director, Under The Bodhi Tree HR Solutions, Mumbai

3) **Capt Ajay Achuthan**, FNI, Synergetic Solutions, Mumbai

Valedictory Session - The Way Ahead



Valedictory Session - The Way Ahead

Chairman: **Er Deepak Sasikumar**, Technical Manager, Synergy Group, Cochin

Speakers:

1) **Capt Hemant Gupta**, FNI, Drewry Maritime Advisors Ltd, Mumbai
2) **Mr Fabian Hackbarth**, One Ocean, London
3) Valedictory Address by **Capt John Prasad Menezes**, FNI,

Former Member, Executive Board / Council, Nautical Institute, London

4) Vote of Thanks by **Capt Sajan K Varghese**, AFNI, Seminar Convener

The Seminar was followed by a Gala Dinner at Dolphin Point, Taj Malabar. Participants were enthralled with a few traditional Art forms of the State of Kerala, in the backdrop of the Backwaters and Chinese Nets.



Capt Tom Joseph, FNI, Chairman, NI India SW welcomed the gathering. **Capt Jose K Thomas**, FNI, Founder Chairman, NI India SW raised the Toast to Nautical Institute.

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MARINE NEWS



"Failure is a lesson learned; success is a lesson applied."

Barak River (Lakhipur -Tuker Gram) Declared As NW 16

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

To promote Inland Water Transport (IWT) in the country, 111 waterways (including 5 existing and 106 new) spread over 24 states have been declared as National Waterways under the National Waterways Act, 2016.

Based on the outcome of techno-economic feasibility and Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of the NWs, 26 NWs have been found viable for cargo/



To promote IWTm Barak River declared as NW 16

passenger movement. Moment of glory for the people of Barak Valley, one of the 26 NWs found feasible happens to be Lakhipur -Tuker Gram region of Barak River.

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways informed through a press

statement, "To promote inland waterways as a supplementary, eco-friendly and cheaper mode of transport, waterway usage charges levied by the IWAI on vessels moving on National Waterways have been waived in July 2020, initially for a period of three years."

Sharing the details of projects initiated on Barak River (Lakhipur -Tuker Gram) in Assam, the Ministry informed, "Development of NW

16 and IBP route at the cost of Rs 145 crore during 2020-21 to 2024-25 was approved by SFC. Declared as National Waterway-16 (NW-16), Barak River connects Silchar, Karimganj, and Badarpur in Cachar valley of Assam through road/waterway with Haldia and Kolkata ports through Indo-Bangladesh Protocol (IBP) Route."

It added, "There are 10 activities as approved by SFC for NW-16 & IBP route. Out of these 10 activities, 03 are of permanent nature viz, (1)

Construction of Terminal at Sonamura on Gumti river, (2) Construction of terminal at Maia on Ganga River and (3) Upgradation of Badarpur and Karimganj terminals, which are in consideration. The remaining 07 activities are of recurring nature viz., (1) Fairway development (2) O&M of navigational aids (3) Consultancy training (4) cargo promotion, and (5) amenities at Ports of Call etc. These activities are carried out on annual maintenance basis under implementation at 2.55% progress till October 2022."

Alappuzha Marina-Cum-Cargo Project under Sagarmala Scheme

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The Centre will develop the Alappuzha marina cum-cargo port project by including it under the Sagarmala programme, Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal has said.

Replying to a question by A.M. Ariff, MP, in Lok Sabha recently, the Minister promised to fast track

the nod for the ₹12-crore project being prepared by the Kerala Maritime Board. The proposed marina would have facilities to accommodate cruise ships, superyachts, and cargo vessels.

Mr. Sonowal said that four tourism projects from Alappuzha with an estimated cost of ₹255.35 crore had been included under the Sagarmala programme.



The Minister promised to fast track the nod for the ₹12-crore project being prepared by the KMB.

They include a maritime museum under the Alappuzha heritage project (₹250 crore) and development of various facilities at the Manakkodam lighthouse (₹1 crore), Alappuzha lighthouse (₹4 crore), and Valiyazheekal lighthouse (₹35 lakh).

Terming it a comprehensive project, the Minister said the Alappuzha heritage project would link backwaters, coast and monuments. Mr. Sonowal noted that the maritime heritage museum established at the Alappuzha lighthouse exhibited the heritage value of lighthouses and the maritime history of India.

"The lighthouse is provided with basic amenities for the visitors. In addition to the existing facilities, the Directorate General of Lighthouses and Lightships (DGLL) is developing facilities such

as information centre, souvenir counter, art and craft shops, Ayurvedic rejuvenation centre, coffee shop, outdoor seating, landscaping, etc.," he informed the Lok Sabha. Some of these facilities will come up at the Manakkodam and Valiyazheekal lighthouses.

As many as 63 projects with an estimated cost of ₹6,131 crore have been identified for development under the Sagarmala programme in the State.

He said the projects under the Sagarmala scheme would significantly boost tourism in Alappuzha.

Coal imports came down in November

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

India's coal imports fell to an all time low during November when it touched around eleven million tons due to stepped up production from the domestic industry. The Imports used to be 12 million tons during October 2022 according to sources

After the south west monsoon ended in September coal India had stepped up production The railway have also been geared up to transport the stocks to the consuming

states in the southern and western parts of the country. The government also resorted to multi modal transport of coal through Paradip port.

Coal india accounted for nearly 90 per cent of India's coal output while the rest came from Singareni coal fields in Telangana

Domestic coal production went up to over four hundred million tons during the first eight months of the current financial year 2021-22.

India is the world's

EXIM NEWS

second-largest importer, consumer and producer of coal, and its imports came from Indonesia, Australia, South Africa, Russia and United States..

The share of coal and coke imports from Indonesia and Russia rose at the expense of Australia and South Africa.



India's coal imports fell to an all-time low during November



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MARINE NEWS



"Failure is a lesson learned; success is a lesson applied."

AP Fast Tracks Work on New Ports

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Andhra Pradesh, with a coastline of 974 km, is fast tracking its port (non-major port) development. The work on the upcoming four new ports in Andhra Pradesh involving an investment of about ₹12,000 crore is in full-swing, according to a senior official of Andhra Pradesh Maritime Board (APMB).

"We expect the four new ports of Ramayapatnam,



AP fast tracking its port development.

Bhavanapadu, Kakinada Gateway port and Machilipatnam to be operational by the end of 2024. This will give a major boost to the social and economic development of the State," Ravindranath Reddy, Deputy Chief

Executive Office, APMB, said.

Economic boost

The construction of Ramayapatnam port is going on at a brisk pace after the foundation stone was laid by Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy in September. The financial closure for Machilipatnam port has almost been completed while for Bhavanapadu port, the land acquisition and the financial closure are in the final stages, the official said.

"To spur the speedy economic development,

except Kakinada Gateway Port, the remaining three ports are being taken by the State government itself. **After the bifurcation, Andhra Pradesh is left with coast line and agriculture, and hence these are our focus areas," Reddy said.**

These ports are being developed with a huge land complex so that industrial investment can be attracted to the State in view of the low cost of water transport in relation to other modes, he added.

After the completion of the four upcoming ports, Andhra Pradesh will have

seven ports including Gangavaram, Kakinada and Krishnapatnam.

The State has plans to develop a port or fishing harbour every 50 km along its coast to generate employment as well as spur economic growth.

"In addition, nine state of the art fishing harbours are being developed across the state including Uppada, Visakhapatnam, Odarevu, Kothapatnam. These are highly advanced jetties costing ₹350 crore each. This will be a game-changer for fishermen," the official added.

Transport of Coal to Commence from Guwahati's Pandu Port to Bangladesh via Inland Waterways

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The coal stocks are from mines in Meghalaya and will be transported to several buyers in Bangladesh on a 'free-on-board' basis via barges operated by private logistics operators.

In a move, which will enhance the attractiveness of cargo transport through inland waterways in

India's eastern and north-east region, movement of coal from Pandu inland waterway port in Guwahati to Bangladesh, is slated to start off.

The coal transport will be undertaken from Pandu port to Sirajganj port, located in north-western Bangladesh along the Brahmaputra river, known as Jamuna in Bangladesh.

"The coal transport will commence shortly,

currently we are looking into the custom formalities of the voyage to be undertaken," said Mukul Jain, Assistant Director at Inland Waterways Authority of India to ET Infra.

The coal stocks are from mines in Meghalaya and will be transported to several buyers in Bangladesh on a 'free-on-board' basis via barges operated by private logistics operators, ET



Coal transport through barges from Guwahati to B'desh

Infra has learnt.

Earlier in the year, the maiden steel cargo transport was undertaken by two barges carrying a consignment of 1,798 tonne steel products of Tata Steel Ltd from Haldia port in West Bengal to Pandu inland port via the Indo-Bangladesh Protocol route.

Apart from Pandu, another important inland waterway port is Dhubri, located in lower Assam and close to the India-Bangladesh border. In the last few years, Dhubri port has emerged as a transit port for commodity transport to Bangladesh.

The river waterway system between India and Bangladesh has seen renewed focus in the last few years in order to enhance cargo transport between north east India and the rest of the country via Bangladesh.

LOGISTIC NEWS

CHENNAI
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Southern Railway has decided to conduct a feasibility study to provide rail connectivity to nine towns — Valparai, Gobichettipalayam, Krishnagiri, Edappadi, Devakottai, Kambam, Dharapuram, Pernampattu and Kallakuruchi—in Tamil Nadu according to local media reports.

While Krishnagiri and Kallakuruchi are district headquarters, the remaining towns are taluk headquarters. Residents from these areas have to travel 25 km to 35 km to

reach major stations to access train facilities to Chennai and other major cities.

Yanam town of Puducherry Union Territory located in Andhra Pradesh will also be covered under the study.

The study is planned as part of the railway board's decision to provide rail connectivity to 80 towns that have a population of more than 50,000 in Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and a few other states and union territories.

Some more rail projects in southern railway to be taken up

The GatiShakti NMP Portal (BISAG - Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics) has identified towns with more than 50,000 population that do not have train facility within 5-km radius, the railway board has said in its directive issued to railway zones, including Southern Railway.

For laying new lines, a preliminary engineering cum traffic survey will be conducted soon. "Engineering studies for laying new lines were being carried out since pre-independence.



Towns with 50,000+ population in some states to get rail connectivity

Major towns are not covered through railway lines mainly because of geographical and topographical disadvantages. The traffic survey will cover freight and passenger traffic potential, classification of land, and rate of return for the project, sources said.

The southern railway has however not taken steps to implement several new railway line projects sanctioned in the budget nearly fifteen years ago. They include Chennai Cuddalore via Mahabalipuram, Tuticorin Madurai via Aruppukottai, Tindivanam Tiruvannamalai and Ariyalur Thanjavur. The track doubling projects between Salem Karur and Erode Karur projects have not taken off though the union budget cleared it three years ago. Railway board has not sanctioned funds for these projects

MARINE NEWS



“Failure is a lesson learned; success is a lesson applied.”

Maersk Appoints New CEO: Skou Hands the Baton to Vincent Clerc

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Since 2016 Soren Skou has led the transformation of A. P. Møller – Mærsk A/S (Maersk) from a diversified conglomerate to an integrated logistics company and set the business on a new growth trajectory.

Chair of the Board of Directors, Robert M. Uggla, says:

“On behalf of the Board, I sincerely thank Soren for his valued leadership and impressive results. I



Vincent Clerc, currently CEO of the company's Ocean & Logistics business, will succeed as CEO of Maersk effective January 1st, 2023

am equally grateful for Soren's support in the CEO succession review making sure the Company does not lose any momentum in its strategic endeavors in a changing and difficult market.”

“The Board is pleased to announce Vincent Clerc as the new CEO of Maersk. Since 2019, Vincent has been the CEO of Maersk Ocean &... With an increasingly challenging outlook, the Board believes Vincent holds the right experience and capabilities as CEO to pursue and oversee Maersk's strategic and organizational development in the years to come.”

Soren Skou leaves Maersk with gratitude and pride. Skou says:

For almost seven years I have worked together with my team to change the business model, the culture, the digital backbone, and the results to make Maersk a profitable growth company again. That was the mandate I got as CEO in 2016 and I would like to thank the Board, our main shareholder, my executive team and all my fantastic global colleagues for their trust and support throughout the years.

Now is the right time for Maersk, for Vincent, and for me to make this transition...I have worked

closely with Vincent for more than a decade and I am confident that he is ready to take the Company to the next level. I look forward to a new chapter in life where I will continue to work at non-executive level and have more time for my family and for other interests.

Vincent Clerc says:

I am thrilled by the trust the Board is showing by giving me the opportunity to lead the next stages of our transformation. It is a privilege for me to lead a company with such a long heritage, strong values, and tremendous potential.

LOGISTICS NEWS

Air India Closes in on Deal For up to 500 New Jets



Delivered over the next decade, the 500 jets would replace and expand fleets in the world's fastest-growing air travel market. Photo: Reuters.

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Air India is set to order as many as 500 jetliners from Airbus and Boeing costing tens of billions of dollars as it eyes expansion, industry sources said on Sunday.

The new orders will include Boeing 787s and 777s and Airbus A350s, they said, featuring 100 or more wide-body jets and as many as 400 narrow bodies.

Even after significant expected discounts, the deal would be worth tens of billions of dollars and cap a volatile year for plane giants whose jets are again in demand after the pandemic, but who face mounting industrial and environmental pressures.

It would also allow Airbus to

secure a home for some A350 production slots initially earmarked for Russia's Aeroflot and now left open because of war-related sanctions against Moscow.

China last week delivered its first C919 jetliner but is at least a decade away from competing on such a scale, experts say.

Delivered over the next decade, the 500 jets would replace and expand fleets in the world's fastest-growing air travel market, while contributing to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's goal of expanding the economy to \$5 trillion.

But experts warn many hurdles stand in the way of Air India's ambition to recover a strong global position, including frail domestic infrastructure, pilot shortages and the threat of tough competition with established Gulf and other carriers.

It may also struggle to get the medium-haul Airbus A321neos being ordered for the Air India-Vistara tie-up as quickly as it would like, with the European planemaker sold out until 2028 or beyond.

Last month, Campbell confirmed talks to “greatly expand” Air India's fleet over the next five years and said, “At the risk of gross understatement, the investment will be substantial.”

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CONTAINER TERMINAL NEWS



"Worrying will never change the outcome"

Cargo handling in Odessa port affected

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Ukrainian port of Odessa has ceased operation from December 11 after the latest Russian attack on the region's energy system. It is the only major functional port of the country and has assumed strategic importance since the major portion of the trade for the country came through this port,

The country's Agriculture Minister

Mykola Solsky, however maintained **grains traders were not expected to suspend exports.** Mr.Solsky said that Odesa port was not operating at the moment because the power generators had not been switched on yet. Grains traders continued to ship grains via two other ports, he was quoted by international media reports

The war torn Ukraine is a major exporter of wheat and vegetable oil.

Cargo handling operations at Odessa port came to a halt as more than 1.5 million people in the southern Odesa region were without power after Russian drone strikes hit two energy facilities, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said in a video address.

Since October, Moscow has been targeting Ukraine's energy infrastructure with large waves of missile and drone strikes. Odesa regional authorities said



Odessa terminal

electricity for the city's population will be restored "in the coming days," while complete restoration of the networks may take two to three months.

Ukraine is among the world's largest producers and exporters of corn and wheat but its exports have fallen significantly due to the Russian invasion.

LOGISTICS NEWS

Toyota to Change EV Strategy to Close Gap with Tesla, BYD



Toyota has been looking at ways to improve the competitiveness of EVs being planned for this decade. Photo: Reuters

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Top Japanese carmaker Toyota is set to reveal changes to its electric vehicle (EV) strategy early next year, as it races to narrow the gap with market leaders Tesla and BYD on pricing and performance.

The automaker is expected to detail the EV plan changes for through to early 2026, communicating the adjustments to major suppliers, Reuters reported citing sources.

Toyota has been reviewing a \$30 billion, three-stage plan for developing and releasing EVs that it announced late last year. The review comes ahead of a major summit of its suppliers in February, the first such global supplier convention since the pandemic.

The revamp comes despite Toyota holding the view that gasoline-electric hybrids, a market it pioneered with the Prius, will

remain a crucial part of the transition to carbon-neutral transport.

Most major automakers expect EVs to account for the majority of vehicle sales by 2030. Green investors and environmental groups have pushed Toyota to move faster as industry-wide EV sales exceed Toyota's earlier assumptions.

Improving EV competitiveness

Toyota has been looking at ways to improve the competitiveness of its EVs planned for this decade.

It aims to do so in part by speeding up the adoption of performance-boosting technologies, from electric drive systems to the electronics that convert power from the grid to energy stored in batteries and more integrated heating and cooling systems.

The automaker has suspended work on some battery-powered car projects announced last year, while a working group headed by former chief competitive officer

Shigeki Terashi looks to improve cost performance and technology in the fast-growing market for EVs.

The working group has been

charged with outlining plans to improve Toyota's EV approach, including considering a potential successor to its new EV platform, e-TNGA.

Sagar Sandesh

Weekly Thrice E-Paper

is bringing out a colourful

NEW YEAR 2023

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LOGISTICS (ROAD/RAIL/AVIATION)



A Smooth Sea Never Made a Skilled Sailor. - John George Hermanson

PM Modi inaugurates Nagpur-Mumbai Expressway

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on Sunday 11 Dec inaugurated the Nagpur-Mumbai Expressway in the state of Maharashtra. He officially launched Phase-I of Hindu Hrudaysamrat Balasaheb Thackeray Maharashtra



PM Modi launching multiple projects in Nagpur

Samruddhi Mahamarg, covering a distance of 520

km and connecting Nagpur and Shirdi.

The 520 km-long phase I is part of the total 701-km super expressway project linking the state capital Mumbai with Nagpur, passing through 10 districts. It is being built at a cost of about Rs 55,000 crore, and is one of India's longest expressways.

The expressway will help improve the connectivity of adjoining 14 other districts, thus helping in development of about 24 districts of the state including the regions of Vidarbha, Marathwada and North Maharashtra.

Espousing Prime Minister's vision of integrated planning and coordinated implementation of

infrastructure connectivity projects under PM Gati Shakti, the Samruddhi Mahamarg will connect to the Delhi Mumbai

Expressway, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust and tourist locations like Ajanta Ellora Caves, Shirdi, Verul, Lonar, etc.

The expressway will be a game-changer in providing a major boost to economic development of Maharashtra.

MARINENEWS

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Chief of Naval the Staff Admiral R Hari Kumar will be visiting Sri Lanka from December 13 to 16. The CNS has been invited as the Chief Guest and Reviewing Officer for the Commissioning Parade at the Naval and Maritime Academy (NMA),

Naval Chief to visit Sri Lanka

Trincomalee, scheduled on December 15.

During the visit, the CNS will undertake interactions with senior political and defense leadership of Sri Lanka. He would also be visiting other defense establishments of the Sri Lanka Armed Forces and review progress of

various bilateral defense cooperation activities.

The Indian Navy regularly interacts with the Sri Lanka Navy through the medium of annual Staff Talks and pursues several operational engagements at regular frequency. The Indian Navy also supports several capacity building

measures of Sri Lanka Navy such as provision of naval platforms, including indigenously constructed Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs) and the Dornier aircraft of the Indian Navy deployed to Sri Lanka since August 2022.

In addition, the Indian Navy remains actively engaged in various capability enhancement projects, including training of the Sri Lanka Navy

personnel in India. Sri Lanka Navy is a regular participant of various multilateral engagements hosted by the Indian Navy, such as the MILAN, Goa Maritime Conclave, Admiral's Cup Sailing Regatta, etc.

The forthcoming visit would further enhance the long standing bilateral defense cooperation with Sri Lanka, specifically in the Maritime domain.

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PORTS (REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL)

"News is what somebody somewhere wants to suppress; all the rest is advertising." - Lord Northcliffe

Slow Road Works Causing Congestion for JNPA Truckers

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The Nhava Sheva Container Operators' Welfare Association (NSCOWA), which represents trailer operators handling movements in the harbour, said the slowdowns had already meant some export containers missed scheduled ocean connections and import



Container truck operators at India's Nhava Sheva port/JNPT are becoming increasingly frustrated by gate delays that could have costly repercussions for the trade.

boxes overstayed on the dock.

"It is taking around 10 to 12 hours for drivers to reach the entry gate," said NSCOWA, and urged stakeholders to intervene to fix the congestion issues.

Nhava Sheva's newest terminal operator, PSA Mumbai (BMCT), has borne the brunt of long truck queues in recent days, but the Singapore-based

company claimed "the sudden emergence of cargo flow disruption" primarily resulted from ships bunching outside allotted arrival window slots after being delayed at their previous ports of call.

PSA said: "We are taking appropriate measures to ease the congestion by deploying additional resources."

"We urge JNPT to expedite the construction and handover of dedicated road access to BMCT on top priority, which will ease the congestion," it said.

As an interim measure to mitigate gate delays, the port authority suggested PSA divert some road movements to a road alongside the rail connection into the terminal. But PSA said this was a narrow access lane that would complicate two-way trailer flows.

EXIM NEWS

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

UK Trade Secretary Kemi Badenoch has arrived in New Delhi on Monday 12 Dec to "kickstart" the sixth round of free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations and hold bilateral talks with her Indian counterpart Piyush Goyal. The new round marks the first formal meeting between the India-UK negotiating teams since July and the first since Rishi Sunak took charge as British Prime Minister.

The Trade Secretary will address both teams of senior negotiators ahead of the sixth round

UK Trade Secretary in Delhi to pursue free trade agreement with India



UK Trade Secretary Kemi Badenoch

of formal negotiations, scheduled to take place throughout the week.

"I'm here in New Delhi to kick start round six of UK-India trade negotiations and meet my counterpart (Commerce and Industry) Minister Goyal in person to drive progress on this agreement," Mr Badenoch was quoted by media reports.

India and the UK are

the 5th and 6th biggest economies in the world. We have a long shared history, and are in pole position to do a deal that will create jobs, encourage growth and boost our 29 billion pounds trading relationship," she added

The UK government said the target for the FTA is to achieve a deal to cut tariffs and open opportunities for UK services such as financial and legal, making it easier for British businesses to sell to the Indian economy, which is set to be the world's third largest with a middle class of 250 million people by 2050.

While in India, the UK trade secretary

will also meet with business leaders to better understand their needs for a "modern UK-India trade relationship". This will include a meeting with a UK company investing over 10 million pounds in India to construct a plant producing Fair trade paper and packaging products.

DIT noted that an India-UK FTA would mean that businesses like Pret would benefit from a "reduction in red tape, more affordable cross-border trade, and increased opportunities to work with Indian companies and suppliers".

"The UK-India FTA remains a top priority for industry"

said Andy Burwell, International Director at the Confederation of British Industry (CBI)

Prime Minister Sunak committed to working "at pace" towards an Free Trade Agreement that does not "sacrifice quality for speed" after that October deadline was missed amid political turmoil in the UK.

"Without negotiating all these things in public, I am pleased that the majority of the substantive negotiation conversations were concluded by the end of October. We will now work at pace with the Indian teams to try to resolve the issues and come to a mutually satisfactory conclusion," he said.

First Russia shipment under rupee settlement next week

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Indian exporters are expecting shipments to Russia to be settled in rupees next week, the first time the new system will be tested since the Reserve Bank of India launched it months ago.

This comes in the backdrop of increased inquiries from sanctions-hit Russia for products such as drugs and automobile parts as the war in

Ukraine enters its 10th month.

"A number of issues have been sorted out. Exporters and importers have begun approaching banks for opening of the accounts," Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) director general Ajay Sahai said.

"So, trade settlement with Russia under the new payment system is expected from next week for some shipments. The difference with Iran is that India is not importing oil and fertilizers

(from Iran) like we are doing with Russia; so, the vostro account is dry. Similar kinds of sanctions are on Iran too," Sahai added.

This assumes significance amid a widening trade gap between Russia and India.

While Russia has swiftly become India's top oil supplier, Indian exports to the sanctions-hit country are declining as exporters are wary of western sanctions and the lack of a smooth payment mechanism.

"As of now, five to six banks have been allowed to open vostro accounts to facilitate international trade settlement in rupees. Besides, about 10-11 vostro accounts have been opened. For instance, there are six vostro accounts opened in IndusInd Bank which means six different Russian banks have opened accounts in the bank," a government official said on the condition of anonymity.

Mint had reported that Indian exporters are having to bear an increase in the cost of shipping goods to Russia with state-run Sberbank charging a 4% premium on settling these trades, at a time India's trade deficit with Russia has ballooned.

"When rupees accumulate in a bank, converting it to a desirable foreign exchange and taking it back to the host country—Russia—is their responsibility. Sometimes, this conversion—rupee to dollar or dollar to ruble—might prove to be costly due to currency fluctuation. But as and when the exports grow, they won't face the conversion risk. At that time, the premium should come down," the official added.

PORTS (REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL)

"News is what somebody somewhere wants to suppress; all the rest is advertising." - Lord Northcliffe

JNPA organized a zonal conference on implementing a Comprehensive Logistic Action Plan (CLAP); Aimed to reduce logistics cost and time

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Mumbai, December 10, 2022: Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), India's best-performing Port, organized a zonal conference on implementing a Comprehensive Logistic Action Plan (CLAP) with context to adopting the National Logistic Policy (NLP) for Terminal Operators and industry professionals, as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, GoI. The conference aimed to apprise the representatives from different sectors about the National Logistics Policy (NLP).

Representatives from DPIIT, the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, the Government of India, Maharashtra Maritime Board, & the Government of Maharashtra, were the speakers at the zonal conference. They were welcomed by Shri Sanjay Sethi, IAS, Chairman, JNPA, and Shri Unmesh Sharad Wagh, IRS, in the presence of all the JNPA officials, Terminal Operators, and industry professionals.

Addressing the zonal conference on implementing a Comprehensive Logistic Action Plan (CLAP) with context to adopting the National Logistic Policy (NLP), **Shri Sanjay**

Sethi, IAS, Chairman, JNPA, said, "The National Logistics Policy is the path-breaking initiative with the potential to bring the much-required transformation in the logistic ecosystem. The NLP aims to break the silos and integrate all the sectors & agencies to reduce logistics costs & time."

He added, "The smart technology and the unified platform for all the data will enable the end user to get directly connected, get detailed information, and help them in decision making."

The representative from DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, GoI, gave a presentation on the National



Shri Sanjay Sethi, IAS, Chairman, JNPA, is addressing the conference

Logistics Policy and the Comprehensive Logistics Action Plan (CLAP), and the representative from the Government of Maharashtra, apprised about the Maharashtra State Logistic Policy (implementation roadmap & monitoring framework) through a presentation. An interactive session followed the presentations.

During the interactive session, stakeholders, terminal operators, and industry professionals raised and discussed their concerns regarding the policy with representatives from the state central government, which will help to enable the efficient execution of the policy with the expected result of reducing the logistics cost.

Chennai Port Day Celebrations 2022

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Chennai Port has celebrated the Port Day for the year 2022 in a grand manner on 12.12.2022. During the celebration, Shri S. Kirupanandasamy, Traffic Manager, Chennai Port Authority delivered the Welcome address which was followed by Cultural event by Port employees.

Shri. S Balaji Arunkumar IRTS, Dy. Chairperson, Chennai Port Authority in his address thanked all officers and employees for their valuable services

during the tough times and also motivated the Officers and Employees to work to their full potential for the growth of the Port as Port is facing challenges from neighbouring Ports.

Shri. Sunil Paliwal, IAS Chairperson, Chennai Port Authority in his Presidential address, appreciated the effort of Chennai Port employees for the systematic work progress and clearance of all the calamities caused due to Mandas cyclone. He further added that it is now time for proactively progress with



Sitting Left: Shri Sunil Paliwal, Chairperson, Chennai Port Authority and Shri S. Balaji Arunkumar, IRTS, Deputy Chairperson, Chennai Port Authority (Sitting Right) along with Best Business Partner Awardees representing 22 firms

KPL for achieving 100 Million Tons and to work on the targets proposed by all the Departments

for improvising the Chennai Port to take -off to excellence, by Financial year 2024.

Chairperson appreciated and awarded Best Business Partner Award to Stake Holders of Chennai Port, with a memento and certificate to 22 firms for handling maximum number of Cargo in GRT based of various categories.

On this occasion Covid compensation of Rs.50 lakhs cheque was issued to 3 dependents of deceased employees of Chennai Port.

With a sense of pride, all officers and employees of Chennai Port have participated in the celebration and with the same vigour continue to contribute towards the development of the Port.



Shri Sunil Paliwal, IAS, Chairman and Managing Director, Kamarajar Port Limited

Kamaraj Port all set to achieve a turn over 100 million tons by 2024

CHENNAI
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Chennai Port Chairperson Sunil Paliwal has set a target of 100 million tons

for the Kamarajar port in the next few years and Chennai port should take off to excellence in cargo handling.

Kamaraj port at Ennore is

now part of the Chennai port.

it is now time for proactively progress with KPL for achieving 100 Million Tons and to work on the targets proposed by all the Departments for improvising the Chennai Port to take -off to

excellence, by Financial year 2024.

Mr Paliwal was giving his presidential address at the Port day celebrations held on December 12th. He appreciated the effort of Chennai Port employees for the systematic work progress and clearance of all the calamities caused due to Mandas cyclone.

SEAFARER NEWS



"Worrying will never change the outcome"

UAE, Saudi Arabia sign MoU for mutual recognition of maritime training and certification of competency of seafarers

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

According to the MoU, both sides recognise education, training, and certificates of competency in the maritime sector

In line with their shared vision to ensure the highest standards of maritime safety,



Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates national flags.

and within the outcomes of the Saudi-Emirati Coordination Council, the UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure (MOEI) and the Transport General Authority (TGA) in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for mutual

recognition of maritime certificates issued in both countries.

This is in accordance with the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers (STCW) 1978, and its amendments.

The MoU was signed at the International Maritime Organisation's (IMO) headquarters in London.

According to the MoU, both sides recognise education, training, and certificates of competency in the maritime sector, as well as medical fitness certificates for seafarers issued by maritime bodies and authorities in the other country, as well as seafarers on board ships flying the flag of the other party, in line with the international regulations and agreements.

MINISTRY NEWS

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Coal production from coal blocks during April-November of Financial year 2022-23 was reviewed by Shri Amrit Lal Meena, Secretary (Coal) here 12 Dec 2022 with project proponents of operational coal blocks. Secretary (coal) informed that the target for the country is 900 million ton and contribution of captives/commercial mines is significant and he hoped

that they will produce as per target.

Ministry of coal is taking all necessary steps and coordinating with State and Central agencies for starting new coal mines and for increasing coal production from operational mines. He asked project proponents to approach the Ministry for early resolution of issues impacting coal production.

Additional Secretary & Nominated Authority, MoC informed that coal production from captive/



Shri Amrit Lal Meena, Secretary (Coal)

commercial coal mines has increased to 67.16 million ton in April-November period of 2022-23 from 50.49 million ton during the same period of 2021-22. Increase in coal production for April-November 2022-23 over

the same period of 2021-22 is about 33%.

He also said that three new coal mines have started coal production in FY 2022-23 and three other coal mines will start coal production by March 2023. Coal ministry is hopeful for more than 120 million ton production from captive/commercial coal blocks in year 2022-23 with increase of about 40% over 85.32 million production in FY 2021-22.

Mine-wise review of operational coal

blocks were made and project proponents were asked to declare the likely coal production in current year. Project Proponents have assured for about 120 million coal production in FY 2022-23 and about 165 million ton in FY 2023-24. Further, project proponents also shared the efforts made by them and the challenges faced. Ministry of Coal assured to provide all possible support in resolving the issues.

NEWS IN BRIEF (To Read Full News Please go to www.sagarsandesh.in)

Contours of Price cap regime on Russian oil imports

The European Union, G7 including United States and Australia, called the "Price Cap Coalition" have recently introduced legislation and guidance effective December 5th intended to maintain the supply of Russian oil to world markets whilst at the same time reducing Russia's earnings from its oil exports



Russia offers to help India to beat the West's price cap on crude

With western sanctions imposing price cap on import of Russian crude in a bid to cripple Moscow's finances, Russia has offered an alternative solution to overcome sanctions and import crude from that country



CBIC Streamline Procedure for Export through Post Offices

As a part of measures to improve ease of doing business, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has streamlined export through post offices. Now, the bill can be entered electronically.



Status of Defense Corridors

The two Defense Corridors set up by the Central Government in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu nearly five years ago have not made much progress in terms of attracting investment.



Maersk's arm Damco India leases 2.43-lakh-sq-ft warehouse in Bhiwandi near Mumbai

Global Integrated logistics firm A.P. Moller – Maersk's subsidiary Damco India has picked up warehousing area unfold over almost 2.43 lakh sqft by a long-term lease of 5 years in Bhiwandi near Mumbai.



Sixth round of India-UK FTA talks to begin from 12 December 2022

The sixth round of negotiations between senior officials of India and the UK for a proposed free trade agreement (FTA) will begin here on Monday with an aim to conclude the talks at the earliest, an official said. The negotiations are happening after a brief gap due to recent political developments in the UK.



LOGISTICS (ROAD/RAIL/AVIATION)



A Smooth Sea Never Made a Skilled Sailor. - John George Hermanson

Varanasi Railway Station to resemble like an Airport Terminal at a cost Rs 7000 crores

VARANASI
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav announced that his Ministry will invest a sum of Rs Seven Thousand Crores for the development of Varanasi Railway station and make it the best Railway station in the World.

Mr Vaishnav said that the redevelopment would be done planning for 50 years ahead, in order to ease the heavy footfall of passengers in the stations in Varanasi city

While inspecting the Varanasi Junction Railway



Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav announced that his Ministry will develop Varanasi Railway station as the best Railway station in the World investing a sum of Rs Seven Thousand Crores

Station on December 9th, the Minister said redevelopment of this station into a World class Railway station is in line with the PM's vision of making the railway station

to look like an airport terminal. Varanasi is the Lok Sabha constituency of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

About Rs 7000 crore would be spent in revamping the station to make it one of the best in the world. (Railways have developed Gandhinagar railway station in Gujarat to resemble an airport terminal at a cost of Rs 750 crores)

The Minister reviewed the redevelopment plans of Varanasi Junction Railway Station. He suggested planning the

redevelopment of the station keeping future traffic increases in mind. Integrated development of all the railway stations in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar will be taken up by the railways.

He also announced new train service Kashi Tamil Sangamam Express between Kashi and Tamil Nadu to commemorate the event sponsored by Government of India. He interacted with the delegates from Tamil Nadu who were invited to witness the Kashi Tamil Sangamam. He interacted

with the delegates of the eighth batch.

The delegates shared their experiences in the tour and how they were well taken care of. He lauded the efforts of the Ministry of Railways & IRCTC team who helped in making this event successful. He said that such people-to-people exchange will bring the traditions, knowledge and culture closer together,

He also said that **sleeper Vande Bharat manufacturing would commence soon to provide modern amenities to the passengers.**

New Rly link to Pharma industry in Himachal from Chandigarh in full swing

CHANDIGARH
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Construction on the New Railway line connecting Chandigarh with the industrial town of Baddi in Himachal Pradesh is going full steam ahead. Having a financial outlay of Rs1,500 crore, the project to lay the 30 kilometer broad gauge line is expected to be completed by June 2025. according to local media reports.

The railway line will connect Chandigarh with the Baddi-

medical units here were awaiting the railway project since industries started setting up here in the early 2000s. The units came in a big way due to tax concessions offered by the central government for the hill state nearly 30 years ago.

There are around 350 cosmetics and drug formulation units in the Baddi-Barotiwala-Nalagarh region, with an estimated annual business of Rs 30,000 crore, both domestic and international

Sanctioned in 2007-08, the project had run into hurdles due to several reasons, primarily those concerning land acquisition. To overcome these roadblocks, the railways had accorded it the "Special Railway Project" status under the Railways Act, 2008, on June 20, 2019.

Hoping that the project will be completed in a time-bound manner, a spokesman of Himachal Drug Manufacturers' Association, said the reliance of Pharma industries in Baddi/BBN area on road transportation will be reduced with the new rail link.



Pharma Industry

Amritsar-Kolkata corridor, thus giving fillip to the industrial belt of Baddi-Barotiwala-Nalagarh (BBN) in Solan district of Himachal Pradesh, the largest pharmaceutical manufacturing hub in Asia.

At least seven lakh people living and employed with the

VESSEL SCHEDULES

For the benefits of our Readers the Schedules will be available in the form of a comprehensive map with a hyperlink to the web portals of Respective Ports and their Terminals.

To know the details for any Port or Terminal. You are just required to log on to www.portport.in and click the tool vessel position / Ports and terminal.

Please Click on the Respective Ports & Terminals in our website www.portport.in to view the Vessel Schedules

WEST COAST

- AMCT - Adani Mundra Container Terminal
- SICTPL - Adani International Container Terminal Pvt. Ltd.
- MICT - Mundra International Container Terminal
- ACMTPPL - Adani CMA Mundra Terminal Pvt. Ltd.
- KICT - Kandla International Container Terminal
- NSICT - Nhavsheva International Container Terminal
- NSISCT - Nhavsheva International Gateway Terminal
- JNPCT - Jawaharal Nehru Port Container Terminal
- GTI - Gateway Terminals India
- SMCT - Bharat Mumbai Container Terminals
- ICTT - International Container Transshipment Terminal

EAST COAST

- VCTPL - Visakhapatnam Container Terminal Pvt. Ltd.
- KPCT - Krishnapatnam Port Container Terminal
- CCT - Chennai Container Terminal Pvt. Ltd.
- CITPL - PSA's Chennai International Terminal Pvt Ltd
- KICT - Kattappalli International Container Terminal
- DBGT - Dakshin Bharat Gateway Terminal Pvt. Ltd.
- PSA SICAL - PSA SICAL Terminals Limited



EXIM TREND

"News is what somebody somewhere wants to suppress; all the rest is advertising." - Lord Northcliffe

Structural issues in Exports need to be resolved says Commerce Secretary

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal said that structural issues in Exports need to be resolved so that the country can support its Exports on a long-term basis. **Focus on skilling is required to increase productivity as wages will continue to move upward.**

He was addressing an inter-active session at the country's leading hosiery export center Tirupur on December 10th.

He complimented the Exporters of Tirupur

for exhibiting great entrepreneurship and processing exports of Rs 35,000 crore in 2021-22.

Earlier, Dr A Sakthivel, President, FIEO, in his remarks, highlighted the liquidity challenges faced by the exporters and requested for extension of Emergency Credit Linked Guarantee Scheme (ECLGS) to be extended till March 31st. 2023

He requested re-introduction of Export Refinancing facility for exports to encourage banks to get re-financed at Repo Rate. The tenure of PCFC may be



Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal

enhanced from 180 days to 365 days looking into the supply side and logistics challenges.

While welcoming the extension of RoDTEP rates for Chemicals, Pharma and

Articles of Iron and Steel, Dr Sakthivel requested that the rates may be notified for the holders of Advance Authorization and Export Oriented Units as well.

Mr Santosh Kumar Sarangi of Directorate General of Foreign Trade asked the industry to utilize the opportunities offered through India-UAE free trade agreement which have become operational from 1st May, 2022. India-Australia Trade agreement will be operational from 29th December, 2022.

He said that global recession will not affect the country and exports are

set to bounce back in next few months. He assured the industry that DGFT would be providing the necessary facilitation to the Exim sector.

Dr Ajay Sahai, DG & CEO, FIEO requested for development of an Indian shipping line of global repute as Exporters are solely at the mercy of foreign shipping lines and country repatriated over 80 Billion US dollars as transport services in the calendar year 2021. He also urged for early operationalization of DESH Scheme which is set to provide plug and play facility wooing Indian investors and attracting FDI.

India's trade deficit with China on the increase

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU



Minister of state for commerce Ms Anupriya Patel said that many imports are inputs for further manufacturing in India and exports from India

The Trade deficit, difference between import and exports, between India and China has touched 51.5 billion US dollars

during April-October this fiscal, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal informed the Rajya sabha.

The deficit during 2021-22 had jumped to 73.31 billion US dollars as compared to 44.03 billion US dollars in 2020-21, according to the data provided by Mr Goyal in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha.

According to the data, imports from China during April-October this fiscal stood at 60.27 billion US dollars while exports to China aggregated at 8.77 billion US dollars.

He said that the Merchandise Exports from India to China have increased from 11.93 billion US dollars in 2014-15 to 21.26 billion US dollars in 2021-22, showing an increase of 78.2 per cent over the last six years.

Imports from China, on the other hand, have increased from 60.41 billion US dollars in 2014-15 to 94.57 billion US dollars in 2021-22.

"The trade deficit with China in 2004-05 was 1.48 billion US dollars, which increased to 36.21 billion US dollars in 2013-14. The

trade deficit with China has since increased to 73.31 billion US dollars in 2021-22," Goyal said.

Most of the goods imported from China are capital goods, intermediate goods and raw materials and are used for meeting the demand of fast expanding sectors like electronics, telecom and power in India. "The rise in import of electronic components, computer hardware and peripherals, telephone components, etc can be attributed to transforming of India into a digitally empowered society and a knowledge economy.

India's dependence on imports in these categories is largely due to the gap between domestic supply and demand," he added.

Replying to a question about imports from China, minister of state for commerce Ms Anupriya Patel said that **many imports are inputs for further manufacturing in India and exports from India.** The major goods imported from China include electronic goods, organic and inorganic chemicals, medicinal and pharmaceutical products, fertilizers, crude and manufactured and dyeing/tanning/coloring materials.

Free Trade Agreement between India and European Union not likely in 2023

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Free Trade agreement between India and European Union may not take place even during 2023, Swedish Foreign Minister Johan Forssell said

Mr.Forssell said he did not anticipate the FTA being concluded in 2023. "To be honest, I do not think such an agreement could be finalized and signed during the Swedish presidency...

But we will try to give it a push forward and perhaps for the Next Presidency to finalize," he said

India's negotiations with the EU were revived in June this year after a gap of almost a decade and cover three agreements on trade, investments and geographical indicators. The third round of the India-EU trade negotiations were held from November 28 to December 9

Stating that negotiations

for an FTA between the EU and a smaller country such as New Zealand had taken several years, Forssell said a trade deal with a larger country such as India involved more complex issues. "Just imagine the [number] of different questions – I'm not saying problems – [involved] in an FTA with India. It takes some time, I think that is the main obstacle," he said

It is also in India's interest to lower tariffs

and boost trade in order to create jobs and attract more investments.

Swedish companies too are interested in investing in India in sectors such as infrastructure, green transition, health and medical technology, said Forssell, who was accompanied to India by a delegation that included the heads of SAAB and SEB, the leading Nordic financial services group.

The Nordic country



India's negotiations with the EU were revived in June this year after a gap of almost a decade.

will push during its presidency of the European Union (EU) in 2023 for the speedy finalisation of a free trade agreement (FTA) with India though there are obstacles in the way of a deal he said.