



Guiding Spirit to Shipping Industry

Sagar Sandesh

Maritime Tabloid English Weekly Thrice E - Paper

In association with R L Institute of Nautical Sciences, Madurai, Tamil Nadu. | RNI No. TNENG/2012/41759 | Monday, December 26, 2022 | Voyage 11 Wave 136

Published & Released on Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday



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India should not snap trade ties with China says....

AMTOI Forms ESG (Environment, Social & Governance) Council



we are experiencing as our planet warms beyond 1.5-2 degrees. The pressure to decarbonize and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases is mounting in all sectors.

Hence being environmentally conscious has no longer remained just a matter of choice..... It's become the need of the hour.

The aim is to mainstream ESG - not just across AMTOI members - but across all stakeholders in the supply chain.

AMTOI ESG Council Logo has been specially designed wherein each color has a specific significance and the font sizes are intentionally 12 :14: 16 - so as to give emphasis on the 3 different aspects of the path towards the protection of our Environment.

AMTOI has formed the **AMTOI ESG COUNCIL** to create awareness about the importance and cost-effectiveness of adopting green measures and to identify the challenges, adopt solutions and design an effective implementation plan.

ESG (Environment, Social, and Governance) in India has slow-brewed from sporadic boardroom discussions to ground and policy-level changes - due to the exponentially increasing risks

EMC (Environmental Management Centre) founded by Dr. Prasad Modak - will be AMTOI's knowledge partner and will assist Council in all its endeavors. For the past 26 years, EMC has positioned itself as a niche player in environmental management consulting across the globe. In all the consulting assignments, EMC's expertise

lies in harmonizing economic, environmental and social considerations (often called triple bottom line) in the business logic, development plans and policy frameworks.

For ESG to be truly embedded and practiced in spirit, all stakeholders have to work collaboratively to protect against further damage to our environment.

IME(I)- Online Skill Upgradation Certification Course in Hydraulics- 29th to 31st December 2022



Based on the encouraging response for the first six courses starting from the Inaugural Courses on Hydraulics held in July 2020, The Mumbai Branch of IME(I) is conducting the 7th Course from 29th to 31st December 2022 of this specifically designed Course in Hydraulics Workshop.

The purpose of conducting such courses is to serve as a continuing

Turn to page -3 >>



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IME(I)- Online Skill Upgradation From Page : 2

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done by using this Link <https://linktr.ee/ime.i.m> and provide us your details, including the correct name as required on the Certificate. After completing the registration formalities and receipt of the payment, you will receive a confirmation from IME(I).

MARINE NEWS

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

In a gesture aimed at spreading cheer and joy in the festive season, American government officials in an Indian city donated gifts, and toys to a child-welfare organisation. US Marines and Judith Ravin, US Consul General, Chennai, delivered new toys, school supplies, sports equipment, clothes and books for 50 children, in the southern Indian city.

US Marines deliver holiday gifts for underprivileged children in Chennai

Being carried out as part of the US Marine Corps “Toys for Tots” initiative, the year 2022 marks the 75th anniversary of this charitable programme, intended to spread a message of hope and cheer during the year-end holiday season.

One US Marine stated, **“The holiday season is an apt time to contribute to the community we live in.** My fellow Marines and

I are so happy to have the opportunity to spread the joy of the Toys for Tots tradition in Chennai.”

US Consul General in Chennai Judith Ravin thanked Arunodhaya Centre for Street and Working Children Founder and child rights activist Dr Virgil D. Sami for her commitment to the shared vision for a just society.

Arunodhaya is a



US Marines and Judith Ravin, US Consul General, Chennai, delivered new toys, school supplies, sports equipment, clothes and books for 50 children Photograph :(WION)

Chennai-based NGO workers and street children working towards the elimination of child labour in all forms; the protection of child workers and street children who have been victims of abuse; and strengthening support of their families.

Rajya Sabha passes Maritime Anti-Piracy Bill

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Rajya Sabha on Wednesday passed a

Bill which the government said would provide an effective legal instrument to combat maritime piracy.

The Bill provides for stringent punishment to those convicted of such crimes.

The Bill was passed by Lok Sabha earlier this week.

Moving The Maritime Anti-Piracy Bill, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said, “Ensuring maritime security is key to safeguarding India’s security and economic well-being.” He said the security of sea lanes of communication is critical as more than 90 per cent of India’s trade takes place by sea routes and more than 80 per cent of the country’s hydrocarbon requirements was sea-borne.

He said the Bill addresses the issue of death penalty as an “exceptional case” and the quantum of punishments envisaged are in line with the gravity of offences.



External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar speaks in the Rajya Sabha during the Winter Session of Parliament, in New Delhi, Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2022. (PTI)

“In the absence of a specific law or a legal provision in the Indian Penal Code or the Criminal Procedure Code on piracy, **this Bill would provide an effective legal instrument to combat maritime piracy.** It would enable us to discharge our obligations under the UNCLOS which we had signed in 1982 and ratified in 1995,” he said.

Members cutting across party lines supported the Bill although some of them pointed out that a few provisions could be improved. Some of the members called for removal of the death penalty provision in the Bill. Regarding suggestions about having a standard operating procedure for better enforcement, the minister said the suggestion is well taken as it would help in its enforcement. **He said designated courts will be set up in consultation with the Chief Justice of India.**



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MARINE NEWS



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

Vigilance stepped up due to possibility of corona pandemic reviving in India

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Union health minister Mansukh Mandaviya said the states have been asked to step up genome sequencing and they should impose masking norms.

He added that **random sampling of foreign travellers has started at airports in the wake of rapid rise in corona fatalities** reported from china during the last few days.

The minister said



Mask to protect and prevent Covid attack

random RT-PCR sampling the country has started. Union health minister Mansukh Mandaviya said

the Centre is keeping a close eye on new Covid-19 variants, this amid massive surge in infections in China. Speaking in both houses of Parliament, the minister said the states have been asked to step up genome sequencing and they should impose masking norms. "We are keeping an eye on the global covid situation & are taking steps accordingly. States are advised to increase genome-sequencing to timely identify the new

variant of Covid-19", the minister said.

Noting that the Covid-19 virus is constantly evolving, Mandaviya said the health ministry is proactive in managing the pandemic and has provided financial assistance to the states in their fight against the contagious virus.

"So far, 220 crore covid vaccine shots have been given", the minister said. "From the last few days, Covid cases have been rising in the world but in India, cases are depleting. We are seeing rising Covid cases & deaths due to it in China", he told the House.

Suez Canal Invites FDI, Conditionally

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Egypt's Suez Canal welcomes foreign investment but foreigners would have no control over the waterway or over a proposed fund that would help to manage its resources, the head of the Suez Canal Authority (SCA) said on Thursday 22 Dec.

SCA Chairman Osama Rabie was speaking to reporters after legal amendments providing for the fund were discussed in parliament this week, triggering speculation they



The fund to guard the canal's resources and to face unexpected challenges said SCA Chairman

would open the door to selling stakes in the canal designed to guard the canal's resources for reinvestment, as well as to help it face unexpected challenges or crises, Rabie told a press conference.

The fund, under discussion for several years, was

"We cannot sell the canal or rent it. It is the property of Egypt and the Egyptians," Rabie said, referring to lives lost during the construction of the canal in the 1860s.

The fund would be separate from the SCA, which already works with foreign companies to develop projects, Rabie said. "The investor will come in connection with the project that is being done, they will not come to the fund."

The cabinet also denied this week that the fund was a "back door to selling the canal."

Egypt is trying to drum

up foreign and private sector investment, especially from hydrocarbon-rich Gulf states, to help address a hard currency shortage that has hampered imports and slowed some economic activity.

The canal, the quickest sea route between Asia and Europe, is a major earner of foreign exchange for Egypt and is expecting revenues of \$8 billion during the fiscal year that ends in June.

Former Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser's nationalization of the Suez Canal in 1956, which led to a failed British invasion, is seen as one of the modern Egyptian state's major achievements.

Operational deployments of navy in neighborhood

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Indian Navy undertook Mission Based Deployments in Areas of Interest in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) to safeguard national maritime interests and maintain continuous/near continuous presence in areas of significant maritime importance in the Indian Ocean Region according to defense ministry document.

These deployments



Indian Naval ship

were in consonance with the Government's vision of 'Security And Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR)'. IN ships and aircraft were regularly deployed in the Gulf of

Oman/ Persian Gulf, Gulf of Aden/ Red Sea, South and Central Indian Ocean Region off Sunda Strait, Andaman Sea/ approaches to Malacca Strait and Northern Bay of Bengal.

These deployments facilitated enhanced Maritime Domain Awareness, swift Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) assistance to IOR littorals, security to Indian

and international maritime community and operational engagements with friendly navies through capability development and capacity building programs. These deployments also enabled IN to be the 'first responder' and 'preferred security partner' across the IOR.

Over 100 Indian Naval ships have been deployed in the Gulf of Aden since commencement of anti-piracy patrols in 2008. Anti-Piracy Patrol in Gulf

of Aden has commenced in 2008 to ensure safe passage of Indian Flag Merchant vessels IFMVS

Maritime Security Operation code-named Op SANKALP in the Gulf Region was pursued to ensure safe passage of Indian Flag Merchant Vessels (IFMVs) transiting through the Strait of Hormuz. Since June, 2019, IN has deployed 36 warships and escorted approximately 361 Lakh Tons of cargo onboard 453 Indian flag Merchant vessels.



Shipping Companies Criticize CII Operations Clause

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Heavyweight ship-owners and charterers, including Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC), A.P. Moller – Maersk, Oldendorff Carriers, Trafigura and Vitol, have strongly criticised BIMCO's Carbon Intensity Indicator (CII) operations clause, which makes charterers contractually responsible for the CII performance of their hired ships.

New regulations on the carbon intensity of international shipping will come into force on January 1 and are expected to significantly impact the future



BIMCO's CII clause is considered detrimental to the future operations of ships the shipowners and charterers say.

operation of ships. Under the BIMCO CII clause, charterers take on the obligation of ensuring the vessel achieves an agreed gCO₂/dwt.nmile in accordance with the MARPOL CII calculation by the conclusion of the relevant calendar year or redelivery, if sooner.

In an open letter to the Copenhagen based shipping industry organisation a group of 23 signatories, said that **shifting CII requirements disproportionately to charterers was detrimental to achieving a good outcome for each individual vessel**

and that it removed the important incentive for owners to do their fair share for decarbonisation efforts and failed to recognise that owners are primarily responsible under the IMO regulations.

The group acknowledged BIMCO's efforts and time spent to adopt the clause but said that it "fell short of expectations", noting that key provisions that were proposed, such as vessel performance and maintenance, were not accepted in the final text. The BIMCO clause was described as "imbalanced" and "unusable," which will "likely lead to a wide variety of "homegrown" CII clauses or – to the owners' detriment – no clause being agreed."

The charterers added

they would not "shy away" from their role in commercially operating the vessel and complying with the CII regulations, but stressed that owners remain equally responsible for maintaining the vessel's operating efficiency, technical operations, navigation, insurance, crew, and all other related matters.

Other signatories are CMA CGM, Hapag-Lloyd, Norden, Wallenius Wilhelmsen, Stena Bulk, COFCO, Clearlake Shipping, Bunge, ADMIntermare, Mercuria Shipping, Panagaea Logistics, Nordic Bulk Carriers, Americas Bulk Transport, Phoenix Bulk Carriers, Engelhart, Unifeeder, Louis Dreyfus and Amaggi.

High Capacities amidst Ebbing Trade Could Trigger Price Wars among Carriers

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

During the surge in container shipments, the carriers had every possible vessel sailing to maximize capacity on their routes. Now as volumes have slackened and spot freight rates tumbled there have been forecasts that **carriers would begin dramatically cutting back on capacity by blanking sailings and laying up vessels for an extended period.** The analysts at Sea-Intelligence, however, are warning that the cuts may not be coming quickly enough laying the groundwork for even more competition on price as volume falls during and after Chinese New Year.

Traditionally, the period around Chinese New Year



Now, volumes slackening and freight rates tumbling, carriers cut capacity and lay up vessels for an extended period.

Sea-Intelligence notes sees a production slowdown in Asia. The shipping lines blank sailings in order to bring supply in line with demand. **The industry has already begun blanking sailings with the expectation that it will continue and likely increase in the coming weeks.** The Port of Los Angeles for example was

forecasting at least 11 blanked sailings to the port during December following 13 blanked sailings in November.

Chinese New Year is also earlier in 2023. The holiday is January 22 with China and Vietnam having an official week-long holiday running till January 27. Normally there is a rush to move goods in the

weeks before the holiday while many companies slow operations and reduce capacity for several weeks around and after the holiday.

Jeremy Nixon, CEO of One Network Express, one of the leading Pacific carriers, said **his firm was expecting that factories might take as many as four or five weeks off in January and February around the holiday.** He said his firm was expecting carriers to reduce capacity by as much as 50 percent on some routes and slowly build it back with the seasonality pick up in March and later.

Alphaliner at the beginning of December reported that approximately 1.4 million TEU of capacity has already been idled or a total of 261 ships

Alan Murphy, CEO of Sea-Intelligence: "Given that demand growth has now stagnated, and freight rates are still dropping, it would make sense for the shipping lines to blank additional capacity during CNY 2023 to try and stem the bleeding freight rates."

Murphy highlights that while the expectation is for further capacity cuts based on the volume declines and dropping rates, it is not the case.

"With the shipping lines sitting on piles of cash, further helped by a highly profitable Q3, Sea-Intelligence speculates that the industry might end up in a situation where there is another price war, reminiscent of the 2015-2016 price war in container shipping.

NEWS IN BRIEF

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

Soft drinks get mojo back with sharpest recovery in 2022

The soft drinks segment, which was among the worst-hit due to pandemic-induced restrictions,



Delhi Mumbai and Delhi Kolkata railway track will be accident free

In a yet another infra development project for the Delhi-Mumbai Delhi-Kolkata sectors Railway board



SHIPPING (REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL)



A sailing ship is no democracy; you don't caucus a crew as to where you'll go anymore than you inquire when they'd like to shorten sail. - Sterling Hayden

Shipping corporation's vessel tally

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

The State owned Shipping Corporation of India has as many as 59 ships under its possession on date including 13 each of crude oil tankers and petroleum product carriers, 5 very large crude carriers (VLCCS), 1 Gas tanker, 15 bulk carriers, 2 liner vessels besides ten offshore

supply vessels Minister for Ports Sarbananda Sonawal informed the Lok Sabha in a written answer.

The gross tonnage of these vessels works out to 29,40,720 tons he said. The corporation has been listed by the government for disinvestment three years ago but the EXIM trade is up in arms demanding that India should have a national shipping firm so



EXIM trade demands a national shipping firm

that it could reap the benefit rates in the international of skyrocketing freight market.

MOL signs 2nd charter deal with India's GAIL for LNG carrier

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

As disclosed, the new vessel will be the second MOL Group LNG carrier serving GAIL; the parties signed a contract for the first vessel in 2019.

The vessel measures 294.9 meters in length and 46.4 meters in breadth. The 174,000 cbm ship is being built by South Korean shipyard aewoo Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering Co. (DSME).



MOL signs charter deal with GAIL for LNG carrier

The charter period will start joint ownership for an existing LNG carrier.

Furthermore, the The current vessel has partners signed a been chartered to GAIL

through a wholly-owned MOL subsidiary since 2021. At this time, MOL and GAIL reached an agreement to share the ship by transferring a portion of a wholly-owned MOL subsidiary's shares to GAIL.

GAIL is constantly expanding its global presence through its participation in projects/ventures along the natural gas value chain. The company has a global LNG portfolio of around 14 MTPA, and

New and Second hand/ Resale ships are acquired by SCIL as per the Annual Plan projections drawn and depending on the existing market scenario and the available business opportunities.

Presently, SCIL is in process of acquiring an Offshore Vessel as per requirement of one of the Charterers and the deadline for the said procurement is in the second quarter of 2023-24.

is actively involved in the LNG trading business in the international market.

“By strengthening MOL and GAIL's partnership, there will be synergies that will make us provide more reliable services, and this will lead us to extend our services even further against the demand that will grow in the future,” according to the companies.

Meanwhile, MOL plans to strengthen its presence and business base in India, where energy demand is expected to increase. It will continue to work proactively to provide LNG transport services.

EXIM NEWS

Import of sub standard toys mostly from China has come down

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

The Government has taken several steps to restrict import of sub-standard and unsafe toys (particularly from China) and to promote domestic toy industry.

As a result of various steps taken by the Government, the volume of import of toys into the Indian market has shown a consistently decreasing trend. The import of toys to India has decreased from 332.55 million US dollars in 2014-15 to 109.72 million US dollars in 2021-22 i.e. a decrease of approximately 67 per cent, according to Mr Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma, Minister of state for MSMEs

Further, export of Toys from India have increased from 96.17 million US dollars in 2014-15 to 326.63 million US dollars in 2021-22, i.e. an increase of about 240 per cent he said in a written answer in the Lok Sabha.

The Government of India has taken several measures to promote indigenous toys...



Chinese toys

Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on import of toys was increased from 20 to 60 per cent in February, 2020.

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade has mandated sample testing of each import consignment to curb the import of sub-standards toys. A quality control order for toys has been issued on 25.02.2020 by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) through which toys have been brought under compulsory certification from Bureau

of Indian Standards (BIS) with effect from 01.01.2021.

Special provisions were notified by BIS on 17.12.2020 so as to grant license to micro sale units manufacturing toys without testing facility for one year and without establishing in-house testing facility. BIS have granted 1001 licenses to domestic manufacturers and 28 licenses to foreign manufacturers for manufacture of toys with BIS standard Marks.

Further, to promote MSME sector including toy industry, the Ministry of MSME is implementing various schemes for providing credit support for new enterprise creation, technology up-gradation, skill development and infrastructure development. Under the Scheme of Funds for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI), assistance is provided for creation of Common Facility Centers with latest machines, design centers, skill development.

A total of 19 Toy Clusters have been approved under the scheme benefitting 11749 artisans with an outlay of Rs. 55.65 crore.

TRADE BODY NEWS



"Worrying will never change the outcome"

BCBA celebrates its 85th Founders' Day

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Brihanmumbai Custom Brokers Association (BCBA), under the leadership of President Mr. Dushyant Mulani celebrated its 85th Foundation Day at Y.B. Chavan Centre, on Monday, 19th December 2022.

Shri. Vivek Phansalkar IPS, Commissioner of Police, Mumbai was the keynote speaker for the program. During his address, the Commissioner of Police emphasized on the awareness on Cybersecurity and prevention of cybercrime and steps that citizens need to undertake for keeping the predators at the bay.



BCBA Team felicitating Chief Guest Shri P K Agrawal
Principal Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone 1

He gave considerable insights on the overall Law & order as well, particularly in the Digital era which is now increasingly touching the daily lives of the citizens.

He appreciated the efforts of BCBA for undertaking the initiative

for its members and for trade at large.

He instructed his team to extend co-operation and requested the audience to educate themselves and spread the awareness, particularly since his team of officers was available to guide on Cybersecurity to Custom

Broker members and Exim trade Industry.

While summing up he conveyed his best wishes to Mr. Dushyant Mulani and his entire team and assured that Police department is always available for long term engagement for creating a crime free environment.

The Police Commissioner's speech was followed by a presentation by Ms. Suvarna Shinde, Senior Police Inspector on awareness of Cybersecurity which was very well praised by the audience.

The Chief Guest for the program, Principal Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone I, Shri. P.K. Agrawal graced the occasion along with

Chief Commissioner of Customs, Mumbai Zone III, Shri. Roopam Kapoor, as the Guest of Honour.

In front of the large audience, Shri Roopam Kapoor complemented the role of BCBA and urged that with the Time Release Study coming up, BCBA and its members to expedite the clearances, particularly in case of Air Cargo, where consignments are time sensitive.

BCBA President Shri. Dushyant Mulani addressing the gathering, congratulated the Customs department for completing 60 years and conveyed that Customs Broker is at the core of the fast-paced developing Logistics Industry and is a force multiplier...

The session concluded with a Vote of Thanks by the Hon. Secretary and followed by High Tea.

LOGISTICS NEWS

TN favors mandatory testing of air passengers from China and Hong Kong

CHENNAI
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Tamil Nadu has urged the Union Health Ministry to issue guidelines forthwith for mandatory testing of international passengers arriving from China and Hong Kong taking into account the experience the country faced two years ago

The state chief minister MK Stalin led a consultative meeting on December 22nd and directed officials to carry out genome sequencing of all positive samples.

Meanwhile the Agra district health officer was quoted by media reports saying that **people will not be allowed at the Taj Mahal without testing**

Karnataka has issued an advisory making masks mandatory "in indoor areas, closed spaces and in areas with air-conditioning." Random testing and screening passengers arriving at international airports will also be done," the minister said, following a meeting with the CM

West Bengal Chief minister Mamata Banerjee directed the state administration step up surveillance, especially ahead of the Ganga Sagar mela in January, 2023, while in Kerala, health minister Veena George said a stock-taking was done and there was no need for panic.

In Uttar Pradesh, the Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath asked officials to step up testing and genome sequencing and to ensure that people wear masks at crowded places. "Officials of medical education and medical health department have been asked to increase surveillance at airports and identify passengers with symptoms such as cold and flu. They have been asked to take samples of suspected patients and ask the patients to remain in home isolation.

Chief Ministers and health ministers of several states reviewed preparations and protocols for Covid-19, with many deciding to make it mandatory for people to wear

masks in crowded places, step people who are yet to take their masks in genome sequencing and nudge third doses to come forward..

Sagar Sandesh

Weekly Thrice E-Paper

is bringing out a colourful

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PORTS (REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL)

Record Breaking Shipping Movements By Deendayal Port

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

DPA-Kandla carried out a record breaking 38 Shipping Movements in the last 24 Hours. This had superseded its own

record of 36 Movements carried out on 03-12-2022. Shri S.K.Mehta, IFS, Chairman congratulated Capt. Pradeep Mohanty, Dy. Conservator & Team for this marvelous achievement.



Deendayal Port

JNPA welcomes USIIC delegation on port visit



USIIC delegates at JNPA

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) recently hosted the delegates from US-India Importers' Council (USIIC) at JNPA for port visit. Upon arrival at the Administration building, the delegates were briefed about various projects taken by JN Port through a presentation by the JNPA officials.

The Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) at Navi Mumbai is one of the premier container handling ports in India. Commissioned on 26th May 1989, in less than three decades of its operations, JNPA has transformed from a bulk-cargo terminal to become

the premier container port in the Country.

Currently JNPA operates five container terminals: The Jawaharlal Nehru Port Container Terminal (JNPCT), the Nhava Sheva International Container Terminal (NSICT), the Gateway Terminals India Pvt. Ltd. (GTIPL), Nhava Sheva International Gateway Terminal (NSIGT) and the newly commissioned Bharat Mumbai Container Terminals Private Limited (BMCTPL).

The Port also has a Shallow Water Berth for general cargo and another Liquid Cargo Terminal which is managed by BPCL-IOCL consortium and newly constructed coastal berth.

Tuticorin Customs Brokers' Association welcomes the new Commissioner of Customs, Tuticorin

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Shri KVVG Diwakar assumed charge as Commissioner of Customs, Tuticorin Commissionerate on 12th December 2022. It is noteworthy to mention that during his earlier tenure at Tuticorin as Commissioner of Customs, he was involved in promoting legitimate trade at VOC Port at Tuticorin and supported various stakeholder initiatives such as EGM Pro, CODEX etc . EGM Pro and CODEX evolved into path breaking technology innovations which facilitated accurate & timely filing of Export General manifest and secure movement of Export laden containers from CFSs to Port. This in turn resulted in immediate release of Duty Drawback, IGST refunds & other



President TCBA L. Cecil Machado welcoming Commissioner.

export incentives to Exporters.

After a courtesy meeting by Office bearers of Tuticorin Customs Brokers Association with Commissioner Shri KVVG Diwakar, President of TCBA Shri Cecil Machado remarked, " We are confident that there will be greater trade facilitations in the days to come under the leadership of Shri KVVG Diwakar. Commissioner

Sir himself assured that all cooperation will be extended to the legitimate trade which patronises VOC Port Tuticorin. "

With the macro economic scenario is gloomy with the Russia & Ukraine war, energy crisis and high inflation at European Union and United States, COVID outbreaks in China, the Indian Exporters have an uphill task in the days to come. The trade volumes has nosedived since September 2022. At this juncture, Trade facilitation which will result in reduction of transaction cost and transaction time will greatly benefit the EXIM community.

VOC Port is one of the leading Major Ports in South India and it's known for ease of doing business, the logistics support eco system, user friendly stakeholders and competitive service.

SHIPPING NEWS

COSCO to receive two electric feeder boxships in 2023



The opening ceremony was successfully held at COSCO SHIPPING Heavy Industry in Yangzhou, China

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

COSCO has announced that it held a ceremony for the launch of the construction of two electric container ships with a capacity of 700 TEUs.

The opening ceremony of the project for the two electric vessels

managed by COSCO SHIPPING Development was successfully held at COSCO SHIPPING Heavy Industry in Yangzhou, China.

The project was designed to serve the main line of the Yangtze River, according to COSCO's statement.

The first ship is expected to be delivered in the second half of next year. As a model ship of green intelligent electric shipping, it is the first electric vessel of COSCO SHIPPING Development and also a 10,000-DWT vessel for sea-river-through transportation with 'box power' as the main power source for propulsion.

COSCO said the project is an important step in order to achieve China's dual carbon targets, facilitate green, zero-carbon shipping, and support the green transformation of shipping in the Yangtze River waters.

Vision 2047: Port handling capacity to be raised by 4 times

New Delhi
Sagar Sandesh News Service

India is working out a plan to ramp up cargo handling capacity of its ports four fold to 10,000 million tonnes per annum (mtpa). A comprehensive ports master plan will spell out the target to be achieved by 2047, coinciding with 100 years of India's Independence, said a senior government official.

India has 12 major ports and 78 operational non-major ports. The total annual capacity of major ports stands at 1,597.59

mtpa while non-major ports can handle 1,007.40 mtpa. This takes the country's total operational port capacity to 2,604.99 mtpa.

In April this year, the shipping ministry had issued directions for preparation of a comprehensive master plan for ports with a planning horizon of 2047.

The Indian Ports Association, an apex body of major ports, has been directed to integrate all port master plans with respect to vision 2047 and prepare a comprehensive plan.



In April this year, the shipping ministry had issued directions for preparation of a comprehensive master plan for ports with a planning horizon of 2047.

The latest goal is well above the targets set under the ongoing Sagarmala programme that aims boosting port capacity by 800 million metric tonne per annum (mtpa) to an overall 3,500 mtpa by 2035. As a part of Sagarmala

programme, more than 800 projects at an estimated cost of Rs 5.5 lakh crore have been identified for implementation during 2015-2035. In a nearer goal, the Maritime India Vision (MIV) 2030 has a goal to develop global standard ports in India.

The MIV 2030 estimates investments to the tune of Rs 1-1.25 lakh crore for capacity augmentation and infrastructure development at Indian ports.

Separately, India is also working on developing LNG handling and ship refuelling capacity at all major ports with an estimated investment of Rs 20,000 crore.

EXIM NEWS

India and Bangladesh to start negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

India and Bangladesh have agreed in principle to start negotiations for reaching a comprehensive Economic Partnership agreement at an early date according to an official release issued after the meeting between the commerce ministers of both the countries in New Delhi on December 22nd.

Both sides agreed to starting the CEPA discussions at an early date, the release said.



Both sides agree to discuss CEPA early

Discussion between Commerce Ministers of India and neighboring Bangladesh took place after long gap of four years. The last meeting was held in Dhaka way back in September 2018

A Joint feasibility study on a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) has been carried out after the two countries agreed for exploring a bilateral Free Trade Agreement.

The study confirmed the CEPA would provide a sound basis for substantial enhancement of trade and commercial partnership between the two countries

Further, both sides agreed that CEPA will create new jobs, raise living standards, and provide wider social and economic opportunities in India and Bangladesh. In addition, the partnership would establish reliable and sustainable Regional Value Chains (RVCs).

The Ministers discussed various issues of mutual interest including removal of non-tariff barriers and Port restrictions, re-opening of border Haats, harmonization and mutual recognition of Standards and procedures on both sides, settlement of trade in Indian rupees, strengthening connectivity and trade infrastructure, among others, to realise the full potential of India-Bangladesh economic ties

Commerce minister Piyush Goyal and his Bangladesh counterpart Tipu Munshi held comprehensive discussions to further strengthen the bilateral economic relations between the two countries in the light of moves to sign a free trade agreement.

They agreed to work together in order to resolve the issues

raised during the course of the meeting and ensure that the outcomes expected in the Joint Statement by the two leaders, PM

Narendra Modi and PM Sheikh Hasina, in September 2022 are achieved in letter and spirit at the earliest.

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*Source: DMICDC LDB

MINISTRY NEWS



"Worrying will never change the outcome"

Free foodgrains to 81.35 crore beneficiaries: Cabinet Decision



Free foodgrains to the poor under govt scheme

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The Central government will provide free foodgrains to about 81.35 crore beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act (NFSA) for one year from January 1, 2023, the Cabinet led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has decided.

The Centre will spend more than Rs 2 lakh crore in this period as food subsidy under NFSA and

other welfare schemes, to remove the financial burden of the poor and the poorest of the poor, Shri Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Commerce & Industry and Textiles said while addressing media persons after the Cabinet meeting.

The minister said this was a historic decision that reflects the

sensitivity of the prime minister towards the beneficiaries of welfare schemes. He said 5 kg food grains per person to Priority Households (PHH) beneficiaries and 35 kg per household to Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) beneficiaries (poorest of the poor) will be provided free of cost for next one year.

Shri Goyal said that under NFSA, subsidized

food grains was distributed at Rs 3 per kg for rice, Rs 2 per kg for wheat and Rs 1 per kg coarse grains to beneficiaries. The cabinet has decided that the beneficiaries will now receive the food grains free of cost.

He added that during COVID period, under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, for 28 months free distribution of food grains was done under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY).

IMO NEWS

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The conclusion of a successful five-year initiative to protect the marine environment in South-East Asia from the negative effects of ships and shipping has been marked at a high-level meeting (25-27 October) in Viet Nam with the adoption of a MEPSEAS-Halong Statement by the participating countries.

The **Marine Environment Protection of the South-East Asian Seas (MEPSEAS)** project has seen seven partner countries - Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines,

MEPSEAS South-East Asian marine protection project concludes



The MEPSEAS project culminated in the Technology Conference in Singapore

Thailand and Viet Nam – make substantial progress in ratifying and implementing key IMO environmental treaties.

During this process, countries implemented

national legal and policy developments and benefitted from related capacity building in port and flag state inspections to support enforcement of the selected Conventions. The project also supported

country-specific port biological baseline survey training, the Green Shipping-Green Port-Green Shipyards (GGG) initiative of the Philippines and the holding of a regional maritime technology conference, among other activities.

As the MEPSEAS project draws to a close, Mr. Jose Matheickal, Chief, Department of Projects and Partnerships of IMO, said **MEPSEAS has been one of the most successful projects IMO has handled in terms of delivery and impact on marine conservation.**

"Ratification and implementation of some important IMO

Conventions prioritised under this project are really going to contribute to the marine protection of the region," he said.

The MEPSEAS project was phase II of a collaboration between IMO and Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) which worked in conjunction with the seven partner countries...

The aim of MEPSEAS was that, by the end of the project, countries would have acceded and implemented their chosen Convention and have in place long-term plans to ensure the protection of the South-East Asian Seas for years to come – aims which have been achieved.

SEAFARER NEWS

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News Service

A Meeting of the International Maritime Organization and International Labour Organization has adopted new guidelines on seafarer abandonment.

The IMO and ILO said the new measures intend to improve conditions for seafarers, including those who have been abandoned.

New guidelines on seafarer abandonment

The guidelines were adopted at a meeting involving governments, maritime workers and employers' organisations.

Cases of crew abandonment (reported to the ILO) have risen from less than 20 cases per year between 2011 and 2016, to 40 in 2019, 85 in 2020, 95 in 2021, and 114 as of mid-December 2022.

"The guidelines aim to improve co-ordination among countries ... in order to resolve abandonment cases more quickly,

including getting seafarers paid and repatriated home to their families," the IMO and ILO said in a joint statement.

Those countries include flag states, port states, states in which seafarers are national or resident, and states in which recruitment and placement services operate.

The IMO and ILO said under the Maritime Labour Convention 2006, flag states must ensure a financial security system is in place for ships under those flags.



Image: Jim Wilson/DCN

"The new guidelines encourage flag states to verify, at least annually, the validity of this financial security," they said.

Turn to page : 12



Airports in India have started corona screening after a year



India on vigil to the covid increase in China

CHENNAI
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

India has stepped up its vigil in response to the rapid increase of Covid-19 cases in China.

The Karnataka government will begin screening overseas travelers at Bengaluru International Airport (Kempegowda International Airport) in view of a sudden spurt in

COVID-19 cases in some parts of the world.

State Health Minister K Sudhakar said that authorities would be screening the air passengers at the airport. In light of an increase in virus cases in various regions of the world, particularly in China, Sudhakar emphasised the necessity for people to

receive a precautionary dosage of the COVID-19 vaccination. He affirmed that new COVID-19 regulations would be released soon.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Union Health Ministry, the state government has taken steps to send positive

samples for genome sequencing in order to monitor newly discovered variants.

"Some countries including China and Japan are witnessing a sudden spurt in cases. China is witnessing more hospitalization. Therefore, we need to focus on booster (precaution) dose coverage," Sudhakar was quoted by local media reports.

High level Japanese team to visit Ahmedabad bullet train site

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau



Japan delegation to visit the project site in Surat

A high-level Japanese delegation led by Mori Masafumi, Special Advisor to the Japanese Prime Minister, is scheduled to visit India on December 25 to meet Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav and resolve a number of important issues related to India's first bullet train project amid delay and cost overrun.

The visit assumes significance in view of the inordinate delay in implementation of the project and the cost over-runs that follows. The project is at least eight years behind schedule as of now and Japanese are not known to take kindly indefinite delays of the projects funded by them. The Japanese bank has funded about Rs one lakh crores with almost no interest as a goodwill gesture to Gujarat as soon as the present government came to power at the center in 2014..

The Japanese delegation and the Union Minister for Railways are scheduled to visit the project site to view the ongoing work. The visit by Japanese dignitaries is significant as India is looking to a concrete commitment from Japan on completing the 508 km Mumbai-Ahmedabad high-speed rail link within Gujarat by 2026.

According to the most recent ground report, the project will have been made a physical development of 24.1 per cent by 23 November 2022, with about

30 per cent of the work finished in Gujarat and around 13 per cent progress has been made in Maharashtra.

The large-scale project received approval in December 2015 with an estimated cost of Rs 1,08,000 crore and 80 per cent Japanese funding in the form of an easy loan. The project cost overrun has reached about Rs 2 lakh crore as of today due to the higher land purchase price, increased input cost, the fluctuating Yen, and GST, however, it has been delayed for a number of reasons. The cost of cement, steel, and land acquisition has increased significantly since 2015, when the project was approved, according to the Railways.

The cost has also changed as a result of the price fluctuations because the JICA loan is in Japanese yen. Additionally, the GST will cost the implementing agency somewhere around Rs 20,000 crore.

Although the bullet train project was previously scheduled

to be finished by 2023, it has subsequently undergone numerous extensions, and a goal has now been established to have it operating in the Gujarat region by 2026. Extension to Mumbai may take another four years.

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.



WEST COAST	
AMCT	- Adani Mundra Container Terminal
AICTPL	- Adani International Container Terminal Pvt. Ltd.
MICT	- Mundra International Container Terminal
ACMTPPL	- Adani CMA Mundra Terminal Pvt. Ltd.
KICT	- Kandla International Container Terminal
NSICT	- Nhavasheva International Container Terminal
NSIGT	- Nhavasheva International Gateway Terminal
JNPCT	- Jawaharlal Nehru Port Container Terminal
GTI	- Gateway Terminals India
BMCT	- Bharat Mumbai Container Terminals
ICTT	- International Container Transshipment Terminal

EAST COAST	
VCTPL	- Visakha Container Terminal Pvt. Ltd.
KPCT	- Krishnapatnam Port Container Terminal
CCT	- Chennai Container Terminal Pvt. Ltd
CITPL	- PSA's Chennai International Terminals Pvt Ltd
KICT	- Kattupalli 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

Update on Indo Canadian Trade



Canadian Trade Minister Ms Mary Ng

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

Canada has granted Market Access for Indian Fresh Bananas and Fresh Baby Corn

for Exports to that country while India has allowed Import of Pulses without penalty in case of fumigation on arrival by Methyl Bromide until finalization of a system approach for Canadian Pulses

The decision follows the fifth India Canada Ministerial dialogue on Trade and Investment held earlier this year. Canadian Trade minister Ms Mary Ng had attended the meeting when negotiations for a Comprehensive Economic

Partnership Agreement was launched

During the visit of Canadian Trade Minister Ms Mary Ng, both sides formally re-launched the CEPA negotiations with the possibility of EPTA (Early Progress Trade Agreement or interim agreement).

EPTA can be a stepping stone to CEPA. It should aim at providing competitive tariff elimination/reduction on a range of goods and open new services markets for suppliers in various sectors, for both sides. It was agreed that EPTA

shall include high level commitments in goods, services, rules of origin, sanitary and phytosanitary measures, technical barrier to trade and dispute settlement and any other area agreed.

Five Rounds have been conducted till November end with 3rd and 4th round held in person in Canada and New Delhi respectively.

The issues under negotiations include Trade in Goods/National Treatment and Market Access, Customs Procedures and Trade

Facilitation, Rules of Origin and Origin Procedures, Trade Remedies, Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary Measures (SPS), Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), Trade in Services (TIS) which includes (a) Telecommunication Services, (b) Movement of Natural Persons/Temporary Entry of Business Persons, Professional Services, and (d) Financial Services, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), Trade and Gender, Institutional Matters (Core Provisions and Transparency), Dispute Settlement, Environment, labor and Investment.

UK likely to revoke restrictions on imports of Indian steel



Countervailing measures on Indian steel import would unlikely cause injury to UK industry says UK's TRA

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The UK's Trade Remedies Authority (TRA) has proposed that a countervailing measure on imports of stainless steel bars and rods from India be revoked.

The TRA set out in its Statements of Essential Facts (SEF) that **revoking the measure would unlikely cause injury to the UK industry.**

This was determined after the TRA found evidence suggesting that UK producers supply only limited amounts of these bars and rods to the domestic market, with the majority of their production being exported. Therefore, it found there to be a low risk of injury resulting from the removal of the measure, as per a report.

India should not snap trade ties with China says NDA Govt economist

NEW DELHI
Sagar Sandesh News Bureau

Snapping trade with China at this juncture as a fall out of its transgression on the border would amount to sacrificing India's potential economic growth former vice chairman of the Niti Ayog Arvind Panagariya said in an interview with a news agency.

"Engaging China in a trade war at this juncture will mean sacrificing a considerable part of our potential growth... purely on economic grounds, it will be unwise to take



Former vice chairman of the Niti Ayog Arvind Panagariya

any action in response to the transgressions on the border," the eminent economist said.

Panagariya, currently a professor of economics at Columbia University, said both countries can play the trade sanctions

game but the ability of a 17 trillion US dollar economy of China to inflict injury on a 3 trillion dollar economy (India) is far greater than the reverse.

"Now there are some who want trade sanctions on China to 'punish' it for its transgressions on the border... if we try to punish China, it will not sit back, as amply illustrated by its response to sanctions by even the mighty United States," he observed. Panagariya pointed out that even a large economy such as the US has not been very successful with its sanctions.

New guidelines on seafarer From page : 10

"Port states are encouraged to pay particular attention to this financial security during their inspections of foreign ships that visit their ports.

"States where recruitment and placement services operate are also called upon to regularly verify that those services include a system to ensure the protection of the seafarers they recruit and place."

The new guidelines set out procedures to be taken by states

if a shipowner fails to fulfil their obligations to arrange and cover the cost of repatriation of seafarers, outstanding wages and other contracted entitlements, and the provision of essential needs, including medical care.

"In these circumstances seafarers are then considered abandoned," the organisations said.

"These procedures include developing, in co-operation with seafarers' and shipowners' organisations, national standard

operating procedures to explicitly define the liabilities and obligations of the competent authority and the roles to be played by the various national stakeholders.

"These stakeholders include the relevant national seafarers' welfare boards, shipping agencies, seafarers' and shipowners' organisations, seafarer welfare organisations, seafarer recruitment and placement services, and others."

The meeting also discussed the importance of the joint ILO-IMO

database on reported abandonment incidents, and the need to update and improve it.

The Tripartite Working Group's first meeting brought together more than 250 representatives and observers from governments and shipowners' and seafarers' representative organisations.

The meeting was held in hybrid format in Geneva from 13-15 December 2022.

The outcomes of the meeting are to be reported to the ILO Governing Body and IMO Legal Committee in 2023.