

# Newsletter

## From Chairman's Desk



Dear Colleagues,

It gives immense pleasure to share with you that Cochin Port could achieve the sixth position among the Major Ports in the evaluation of Individual Port Performance for the year 2015-16 carried out for the purpose of Productivity Linked Reward (PLR). In spite of our financial constraints, Port management is committed to pay PLR I to CoPT staff and pensioners in a time bound manner, i.e., 15<sup>th</sup> November and 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2016.

We are able to achieve a traffic growth of 6.6% during the April-October 2016 period with an appreciable 20% growth in the container handling.

The arrival of coastal car carrier brings new hopes to the Port and we are looking forward to more vibrant port activities on Willingdon Island.

Increase in crude oil handling and POL due to BPCL Refinery expansion will give further fillip to our growth.

Govt. of India was very considerable to Cochin Port Trust and had waived Rs.897.23 crores of penal interest.

Recently, we have got favourable arbitration award from Ministry of Law on the issue relating to payment of transfer fee by BPCL Kochi Refinery. Cochin Port Trust is exploring and trying to tap further coastal cargo and also strategic tie-

up with Coast Guard for improving port revenue.

Committed initiatives by Govt. of Kerala are yielding results and the bottlenecks to laying of pipelines by GAIL are being cleared on war footing. Once the pipeline network is ready, the LNG terminal at Puthuvypin will operate to its full capacity, ensuring higher revenue to the Port.

I thank the labour unions in the Port for ensuring strike-free functioning of the Port, which helped a lot in gaining credibility among the trade in Kerala as well as in the hinterland in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka.

Let us strive hard to achieve higher goals in the coming days to take our port to its past glory.

**A V Ramana**  
Chairman (i/c)

## Visit of Hon'ble Union Minister for Shipping

**S**hri Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Union Minister for Shipping, Road Transport & Highways visited Cochin Port during 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and held a review meeting on the functioning of the Port.

Hon'ble Minister also witnessed the maiden call of M. V. Dresden, the first ever Ro-Ro Car Carrier ship to call at Cochin at Q7, Ernakulam Wharf on 27.09.2016. The Car Carrier called at Cochin from Ennore in the circuit, Ennore-Cochin-Kandla-Cochin-Ennore, connecting the automobile production hubs in Tamil Nadu in the East coast and Gujarat and Haryana in the West coast of India.



Guard of Honour by CISF, Cochin Port Unit



Hon'ble Minister visits car carrier



Review Meeting at Cochin Port

# 'Swachhagraha'-screening of best short films & 'Swachh Bharat' pledge

Swachhagraha'-screening of the 10 best short films on Swachh Bharat was organized by Cochin Port Trust at Samudrika Convention Centre on 18<sup>th</sup> October, 2016. Shri. M. Venkaiah Naidu, Hon'ble Union Minister for Urban Development HUPA & Information and Broadcasting presided over the function and highlighted the importance of being 'Swachhagrahi' to achieve the aims of the Swachh Bharath Abhiyan. The function was attended by Prof. P. J. Kurien, Hon'ble Dy. Chairman, Rajyasabha , Dr. K. T. Jaleel, Minister for Local Administration, Govt. of Kerala and Shri A V Ramana, Chairman (i/c) Cochin Port Trust. Hon'ble Union Minister, Shri. Venkaiah Naidu administered the Swachh Bharat Pledge and also signed on the Pledge Board.



Administering of 'Swachh Bharat' pledge



On the dias (from left) Sri. A.V. Varma, Prof. P. J. Kurien, Shri. Vankaiah Naidu and Dr. K. T. Jaleel



Lighting of lamp



Signing on the Pledge Board



## Visit of Shri Pon. Radhakrishnan

Shri. Pon. Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Road Transport, Highways and Shipping, visited Cochin Port on 09-09-2016 and reviewed the performance of Cochin Port Trust, in a meeting which was attended by Shri. Pravir Krishn, Joint Secretary (Ports), Ministry of Shipping, Shri. A.V. Ramana, Chairman (i/c), Cochin Port Trust and Heads of Department. The Minister appreciated the initiatives taken by Cochin Port to implement RFID based Gate Access System and Online Berth Allotment System towards facilitating trade and enhance efficiency. He noted that with the waiver of penal interest, the creditworthiness of Cochin Port has been enhanced for the Port to vigorously pursue new projects.



Guard of Honour by CISF, Cochin Port Unit



Review Meeting at Cochin Port

## TRAFFIC GROWTH

Cochin Port, as in the previous years, has registered significant growth in the current year also. Last year Port has registered a growth of 2.33%. This year till 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 Port has shown a growth of 6.63%, when compared to 31<sup>st</sup> October 2015. Majority of growth has occurred in containers and liquid bulk cargo. Also regarding performance of the Port, it is showing significant improvement in various performance parameters.

Regarding International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT), this year as of 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 a total of 2,83,114 TEUs has been handled as against 2,36,096 TEUs in the correspondence period of previous year. This is 19.91% increase over the previous year. It is expected that this year ICTT may touch the ambitious figure of 5 lakh TEUs as per the current trend.

One of the major achievements of this year is the start of new Ro-Ro Car Carrier

calling at Cochin Port for import of coastal cars. It is for the first time such an initiatives has happened in Cochin Port. It is expected that there will be regular call of Ro-Ro ships carrying car to Cochin in future. In order to promote this, as per the directive of Ministry, Port has extended 80% discount in Vessel Related Charges and Cargo Related Charges for Ro-Ro ships.

This year the season for the cruise ship has begun and the first ship M. V Emerald Princess was handled on 22.10.2016. It is expected that about 49 cruise ships will be handled this year. Port has decided to permit temporary souvenir stall at the berth for display and sale of ethnic Indian products like handicrafts and curios. About 30-35 stalls are operating currently.

This year it is expected that Port will achieve its target throughput of 24.5 Million Tones.

## Waiver of penal interest on GoI loans

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has given its approval for waiver of penal interest on Government of India (GOI) loans availed by Cochin Port Trust to the tune of Rs. 897.23 crore. The CCEA also gave its approval by freezing the liability on account of GOI loans, interest thereon and penal interest @ 0.25% as on 31.3.2016 amounting to Rs.557.16 crore (Rs.258.14 crore + Rs.281.45 crore + Rs.17.57 crore). The CCEA, further approved the rescheduling of repayment of the amount frozen in 10 years commencing from 2018-19.

The Cochin Port Trust availed loans for various developmental activities from Govt. of India amounting to Rs.168.15 crore between 1936-37 to 1994-95. Non-repayment of these loans has attracted penal interest to the tune of Rs. 914.80 crore. The Port could not repay the loans since the projected revenue from the capital investment done was not sufficient to cover the interest component.

The move comes in the backdrop of a series of steps taken by Cochin Port. The Cochin Port has undertaken a series of remedial measures to improve its financial conditions, apart from the measures ordered by Government of India, such as ban on recruitments, stoppage of vehicle purchases and the like, measures adopted by the Port include steps unprecedented in other Major Ports, like freezing of Variable DA for all employees and Dearness Relief for pensioners, stoppage of HBA, conveyance advance, and LTC, stoppage of overtime posting for non-operating areas, reduction of uniform allowance to single set basis, and deferment of Leave Encashment.

With these recent initiatives taken by the Cochin Port, several income streams, long awaited by the Port, are now beginning to bear fruit and this would improve the financial status of the Port in future.



Car carrier M.V. Dresden and cars unloaded at Cochin Port



## Independence Day Celebrations

Shri A V Ramana, Chairman (i/c) hoisted the National Flag and inspected the parade by CISF during the Independence Day Celebrations held at Cochin Port Trust.

Heads of Department, employees and their families and CISF personnel attended the celebrations.



## Visit of Korean Consulate General

Korean Consulate General Mr. Kyungsoo Kim visited the Cochin Port on 11th August 2016, for exploring mutually beneficial maritime trade facilities. Shri A.V. Ramana, Deputy Chairman, Cochin Port Trust explained the various facilities in CoPT to the Consulate General. Shri G. Vaidyanathan, Chief Engineer, Shri Jimmy George, Traffic Manager (i/c), Shri S.K. Das, CME, were also present.



Chairman (i/c) handing over memento to Korean Consulate General



From left, Shri Jimmy George, TM (i/c), Korean Consulate General, Shri G. Vaidyanathan, CE, Shri Saroj Kumar Das, CME and Shri A.V. Ramana, Chairman (i/c)

## HINDI FORTNIGHT CELEBRATION

Hindi Fortnight Celebration-2016 was observed from 19th September to 3rd October, 2016. During this period several competitions namely Hindi Film Song, Recitation, Speech, Reading, Administrative Terminology, Noting & Drafting, Paragraph Dictation & Anthakshari Competition were conducted among Officers and employees. Competitions namely speech and Hindi Music in two groups for port employees' children were also held. All participants performed very well in all competitions.



Hindi Anthakshari competition in progress

## Discounts/ Rebates to Trade

**Discount in Demurrage for Cargo cleared during Non-Peak hours:** - Cochin Port has decided to provide 50% discount in Demurrage to the cargo which are taken delivery during the Non-Peak hours; that is during the 3<sup>rd</sup> shift of the day (9.15 pm to 7.00am).

**Rebate in Vessel related charges Ro-Ro Car Carriers:** - Cochin Port has decided to provide 50% rebate in Vessel related charges for coastal Roll-on Roll-off Car Carriers. This marketing initiative has paved way for arrival of the first ever Ro-Ro Car carrier at Cochin on 27.09.2016

## COCHIN PORT TRUST

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