

Press Release

The Ministry of Shipping has issued orders that the Cabotage restrictions for transshipment of EXIM containers at the International Container Transshipment Terminal, Vallarpadam may be relaxed under Section 407(3) of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 subject to certain conditions.

This relaxation is subject to 100% radiological scanning of containers.

The order further stipulates security procedures in compliance with applicable regulations of ISPS Code and extant Government of India instructions.

The Cochin Port has already established 100% radiological scanning. The ICTT is currently under Level II of the ISPS Code with its security entrusted with the armed constabulary of CISF.

A meeting of the Revenue Secretary and the Secretary (Shipping) on 11th December, 2012 has decided that the Customs will procure, install and operate X-ray scanners for the ICTT.

The trade has welcomed the announcement of the Ministry of Shipping and feels that services through ICTT will be able to compete effectively with neighbouring transshipment hubs.

EXIM trade in India will benefit from this development by reduction in transit times up to 7 days and reduction in international freight up to 300 USD per container.