

Service providers at ICTT for concerted action to improve handling at ICTT.

The Stakeholders of the Cochin Port Trust in a joint meeting today decided to put in action a concerted plan for buildup of container handling at the ICTT, Vallarpadam. The Stakeholders included Cochin Chamber of Commerce and service providers like Terminal Operator, Steamer Agents Association, and Custom House Agents Association. The meeting decided to implement steps to attract new shipping services to commence from ICTT. Simultaneously the service providers will reach out to the EXIM sector to route the containers through Vallarpadam.

The participating stakeholders assured better services from their individual avenues to increase the capacity utilization of ICTT. The Stakeholders pointed out that there are rooms for more cost reduction. One example pointed out by a stake holder is that of CONCOR charging Congestion Surcharge at ICTT even though there is no congestion at the terminal. The Stakeholders decided to create a Core Committee from themselves who will study and evolve a strategic plan for diversion of more containers through ICTT.

It was decided to proceed with a diagnostic approach to identify the existing factors leading to comparative disadvantages and put in place remedial measures. For this, it was decided to jointly engage a study by a consultant to come up with plans to bring cost competitiveness and service reliability while using ICTT.

The meeting was attended by Shri. Paul Antony, Chairman (CPT), Shri. Anil Singh, Vice President (DP World), Shri. G. Krishnakumar, Dy. Chairman (CPT), Dr. C. Unnikrishnan, Traffic Manager (CPT), Shri. Sasi Kartha, President (Cochin Chamber), Shri. Prakash Iyer, President (Steamer Agents Association) and Shri. Abraham Philip, President (CHAA). Shri. Sunil Joseph of APM Terminals presented a paper on the plan of action.