

Cochin Port joins the club of deep draft ports in the world

Cochin Port joined the club of deep draft ports in the world servicing 14.5 metres draft vessels, with the call of mainline container vessel M V Petrohue on 13 July 2015 at Vallarpadam International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT).

M V Petrohue is part of the shipping service GALEX (GLX- a consortium of four vessel operators – ESL, KMTC, RCL and Hanjin) connecting Pusan, South Korea, Shanghai, Ningbo, Chiwan, Singapore, Port Klang, Colombo, Cochin, Nhava Sheva, Mundra and Jebel Ali. GALEX consists of seven vessels with a capacity of 6,500 TEUs each and reinforces Cochin Port's position as a transshipment hub with state-of-the-art facilities. GALEX vessels will call at Cochin on a weekly basis.

It may be noted that the Cochin Port Trust had made 14.5 metres draft available at ICTT in April 2013.

Clarification on charges being levied at Cochin Port

In the meantime, it has been noticed from today's media reports that inaccurate information regarding the vessel related charges levied at Cochin Port has been conveyed by some quarters to the media.

It is hereby clarified that upto 85% rebate on Vessel Related Charges (VRC) is given by the Cochin Port Trust to match the rates with that of Colombo Port. This rebate is available to all mainline vessels calling at ICTT.

As per the Circular dated 26-06-2015 the discount of 85% is available to;

1. mainline vessels having less than 13 metres draft, handling a minimum of 300 TEUs containers at the Terminal
2. mainline vessels having 13 to 13.5 metres draft, handling a minimum of 800 TEUs containers at the Terminal, *and*
3. mainline vessels having 13.5 to 14.5 metres draft, handling a minimum of 1800 TEUs containers at the Terminal.

The vessels falling short of the norms on terminal throughput will be eligible for a rebate of 25% in VRC.