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The e-Bulletin of V.O.Chidambaranar Port Authority

July-Sep 2024

2024-25 Q2



From the Desk of Chairperson



Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE
Chairperson

I am excited to welcome you to the second newsletter of the financial year 2024-25. It gives me great pleasure to highlight the remarkable progress and achievements the Port has made thus far.

Up to the second quarter of this financial year, we successfully handled 21.01 million tonnes of cargo, marking a growth of 5.90% compared to the 19.84 million tonnes handled during the same period last year. Our containerized cargo operations also saw a notable increase, with 401,902 TEUs handled, representing a 6.75% rise from the 376,473 TEUs managed up to the second quarter of the previous financial year. These figures reflect our Port's growing capacity and our dedication to operational excellence and efficiency.

We have also made substantial advancements in infrastructure development. To bolster our container trade, the new Tuticorin International Container Terminal, operated by the JM Baxi Group, has been inaugurated by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways on 16.09.2024. This terminal, with its 14.20-meter draft, 370-meter length overall (LOA), and 600,000 TEU capacity, will significantly enhance our container handling capabilities. With this addition, we are aiming to reach 1 million TEUs of container handling during the 2024-25 fiscal year.

Moreover, the Port has also signed a concession agreement with M/s. JSW Tuticorin Multipurpose Terminal Pvt. Ltd. in July for the mechanization of North Cargo Berth-III. This project will augment our capacity to handle dry bulk cargo by 7 million tonnes annually.

Looking ahead, we are setting our sights on an ambitious target under 'Mission 50,' with the goal of handling 50 million tonnes of cargo by the end of FY 2024-25.

I sincerely thank each and every one of you for your invaluable contributions to the Port's success. Together, I am confident we will continue to achieve new milestones and establish ourselves as the preferred port on the east coast of India.

Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE
Chairperson

PORT PERFORMANCE

Traffic Performance

V.O.Chidambaranar Port handled 21.01 million tonnes of cargo up to the second quarter of this financial year 2024-25, as against 19.84 million tonnes handled during same period of last year, registering an increase of 5.90%.

The Port recorded a 6.75% growth in container traffic, handling 4,01,902 TEUs up to the second quarter of the current financial year 2024-25, compared to 3,76,473 TEUs handled during the same period of the previous Financial Year.

Operational Achievements



On 13.09.2024, the Port set a new record by handling 23,523 Tonnes of coal in a single day at North Cargo Berth-2, using Harbour Mobile Cranes, from the vessel MV Spetses, surpassing the previous record of 20,642 Tonnes set on 29.08.2024.

PORT PERFORMANCE



By the end of the second quarter of the financial year 2024-25, the Port handled 47 windmill blade-carrying ships, exceeding the 37 ships handled during the same period of the previous financial year. Additionally, the Port had handled 1,269 windmill blades during this period, marking a substantial increase from the 940 windmill blades handled in the Financial Year 2023-24.

Green Initiatives



On 01.09.2024, Port set a new single-day record in renewable energy generation with 68,697 units, surpassing the previous highest of 67,807 units generated on 21.07.2024. This achievement was driven by 26,070 units from 5 MW solar power plant, 40,080 units from 2 MW wind turbine, and 2,547 units from a 640 kW rooftop solar power system.

EVENTS

Pre-budget stakeholder discussion



On 01.07.2024, the Port participated in a pre-budget stakeholder discussion chaired by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Union Minister of MoPSW. The interactive discussion focused on budget priorities, flagship schemes and 100-days key action plans to enhance Port infrastructure.

On 01.07.2024, 'National Doctors Day' was celebrated at the Port Hospital. Dr. P Naresh Kumar, CMO, emphasized the importance of the day and thanked his colleagues for their dedication.

National Doctors' Day



Commissioning New LED Street Lights



On 02.07.2024, Port commissioned new LED Street lights along the left side of the 2.5 Km link road (Beach Road) from TTPS Camp-1 Roundana to Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI). A total of 41 Nos of street light poles were replaced with new luminaries in the existing poles at a cost of Rs. 56,82,519 /-

EVENTS

Concession Agreement for the mechanization of North Cargo Berth-III



On 02.07.2024, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, signed a concession agreement on behalf of VOC Port with Shri Lalit Singhvi, Director & CFO, JSW Infrastructure Limited, for the mechanization of North Cargo Berth-III to handle dry bulk cargoes on DBFOT basis.

Meeting with TANGEDCO Officials

On 03.07.2024, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, met Shri Rajesh Lakhoni IAS., Chairman cum Managing Director, TANGEDCO, along with the senior officers of the Port. He discussed on the feasibility of installing link conveyor for optimal use of Coal Jetty-1 and utilizing the newly built jetty at Udangadi.



'Newsmaker of the year' award



On 03.07.2024, the Port received the 'Newsmaker of the year' award in the 15th South East CEO Conclave and Awards 2024 event at Chennai. Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, received the award on behalf of the Port from Shri Gopal Krishna, former Secretary, MoPSW and Shri Sunil Paliwal, IAS, Chairperson, Chennai Port Authority.

EVENTS

Foundation Day



On 11.07.2024, the Port extended its heartfelt wishes to all the officers, staff, Port users, stakeholders, trade unions, CISF unit, and everyone associated with the Port on the 'Foundation Day'.

Chairperson welcoming Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Union Minister

On 11.07.2024, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, welcomed Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, on his visit to Kanyakumari.



Exchange of lease agreement for construction of warehouse at the Port area



On 12.07.2024, Shri K. Ravikumar, Chief Engineer and K.P. Parvathy Raja, Senior Manager, Marketing, Indian Potash Limited, exchanged the lease agreement for construction of warehouse at the Port area in the presence of Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson.

EVENTS

Welcoming the new Secretary



On 15.07.2024, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, welcomed Shri S.P. Mohan Kumar, the new Secretary of VOC Port, Tuticorin, who previously served as Secretary of Mormugao Port Authority, Goa.

90th Safety committee meeting

On 16.07.2024, Shri Suresh Babu, Deputy Chairperson i/c & CME, chaired the 90th safety committee meeting with the Port users, stakeholders and Senior Officers of the Port. The discussion included improving Zone B facilities, additional illumination at 9th berth approach road and upgrading the Hare Island roads.



205th General Body meeting of Indian Ports Association



On 19.07.2024, VOC Port organized 205th General Body meeting of Indian Ports Association at Madurai. Shri Rajiv Jalota, IAS, Chairman, Indian Ports Association and Chairperson of Mumbai Port and the Chairpersons and Deputy Chairpersons of the Major Ports participated in the General Body Meeting.

EVENTS

Agreement to facilitate Payment Gateway Services through NLP Marine for the Port's Stakeholders



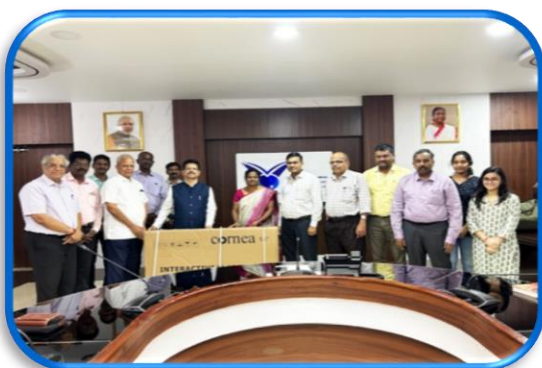
On 29.07.2024, Shri Ashoka Kumar Sahu, Financial Advisor and Chief Accounts Officer, VOC Port and Shri Raman Devaraj, Dy. GM, Zonal Office, Chennai, Union Bank of India, signed and exchanged the agreement document to facilitate payment gateway service through NLP Marine to the stakeholders of the Port.

Performance review of the Port by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways

On 06.08.2024, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, launched the Newsletter, corporate video of the Port and chaired the performance review of the Port along with Shri T.K. Ramachandran, IAS, Secretary to the Government, MoPSW and other senior officials.



Donation to Port Schools



On 07.08.2024, as a CSR initiative by Port users, M/s. Naga Limited, Dindigul, donated a Smart interactive board to Port schools to improve learning experience. Additionally, M/s. DCW Limited, Sahupuram, donated 10 Mridangam musical instruments to inculcate musical talent among Port school children. The above equipments were received on behalf of Port school by Mrs. P.K. Sharmila, Headmistress.

EVENTS

Lecture on 'Stress Management'



On 13.08.2024, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, presided over an insightful lecture on 'Stress Management' organised by Port's Medical Department. Dr. Sivasailam, a Senior Consultant Psychiatrist shared valuable insights and practical strategies for effectively managing stress.

MoU Signing with SHV Energy Pvt. Ltd., (Supergas)

On 14.08.2024, an MoU was signed on behalf of the Port by Shri V. Suresh Babu, Deputy Chairperson i/c. & CME and by Shri Ajay Sanghi, CEO and Shri Sreeman Kadali, VP and Corporate Governance & Public Affairs, SHV Energy Pvt. Ltd., (Supergas) in the presence of Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson.



Blood Donation Camp at the Port Hospital



On 19.08.2024, the Port, in association with Government Medical College Hospital, Tuticorin, organised a blood donation camp at the Port Hospital. Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, inaugurated the event. Large number of Port employees and CISF personnel donated blood, reflecting community spirit and compassion.

EVENTS

Independence Day Celebration



On 15.08.2024, the Port celebrated the 78th Independence Day in a grand manner at the Port's School ground. Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, hoisted the National Flag, delivered an Independence Day message, and presented Meritorious Awards to Port officers, staff, school children, teachers, and children of Port employees. Students from Port's School dazzled with lively dance performances in bright, vibrant hues. Meanwhile, the CISF unit captivated the audience with a series of remarkable demonstrations.



EVENTS

Sadbhavana Diwas



On 20.08.2024, the Port observed Sadbhavana Diwas. Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, administered the Sadbhavana Diwas Pledge in English, Shri V. Suresh Babu, Dy. Chairperson (i/c) & CME, in Hindi, and Shri K. Ravikumar, Chief Engineer in Tamil, to all officers and staff of the Port.

Awareness program focused on the importance of life insurance

On 22.08.2024, the Port organised an awareness program focused on the importance of life insurance. The event was chaired by Shri V.Suresh Babu, Deputy Chairperson i/c., & CME and presided over by Shri Asoka Kumar Sahu, FA&CAO. Shri Aju Mathews, Senior Divisional Manager, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), delivered a comprehensive overview on life insurance services and its benefits.



National Space Day



On 23.08.2024, National Space Day was celebrated at the Port. The special invitee Dr. S.R. Balaji, Assistant Professor, Kamaraj College, Tuticorin, gave a presentation on Chandrayaan-3 and the latest updates on the lunar mission of India.

EVENTS

Study visit of the Committee on Petitions, Rajya Sabha



On 29.08.2024, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, along with senior officers of the Port, participated in the parliamentary Committee meeting on study visit of the Petitions, Rajya Sabha, at Chennai.

153rd Birth Anniversary of V.O. Chidambaranar

On 05.09.2024, to commemorate the 153rd birth anniversary of the legendary freedom fighter V.O. Chidambaranar, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, garlanded the statue of V.O. Chidambaranar at the Port.



Smt. Kanimozhi Karunanidhi, Hon'ble M.P, visiting the Port



On 09.09.2024, Smt. Kanimozhi Karunanidhi, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Thoothukkudi Constituency, Smt. P. Geetha Jeevan, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare, Government of Tamilnadu and Shri P. Jegan, Hon'ble Mayor, Thoothukudi Corporation visited the Port.

EVENTS

Dedication of Tuticorin International Container Terminal



On 16.09.2024, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Union Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, dedicated the Tuticorin International Container Terminal, inaugurated, laid foundation stone and commenced various works for VOC Port projects.. The minister then flagged off the maiden container vessel from the terminal, marking a major milestone in India's maritime infrastructure development.



The Hon'ble Union Minister also unveiled the 'Mission 50' T-shirt, at the Port, symbolizing VOC Port's goal to handle 50 million tonnes of cargo in 2024-25. The T-shirts were distributed to all employees, boosting morale and work together to achieve this target.

As part of the event, a mass plantation drive was held at VOC Orchard, led by the Hon'ble Union Minister, to mark the nationwide initiative "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on June 5, 2024, to promote environmental sustainability.



EVENTS

Policy Practitioners Programme, Korea



On 25.09.2024, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, participated in the Policy Practitioners Programme organised by Export-Import Bank of Korea in partnership with the Asian Development Bank, at Seoul, South Korea and highlighted various development works being undertaken at the Port.

Plantation drive, as part of the Swachhata Hi Seva campaign

On 20.09.2024, as part of the Swachhata Hi Seva campaign, the Port organized a plantation drive near Harbour Colony, led by the women employees. During the event, 100 saplings were planted by women officers and staff, showcasing their dedication to a greener future.



International coastal cleanup 2024



On 21.09.2024, Shri Susanta Kumar Purohit, IRSEE, Chairperson, along with the senior officers of the Port, engaged themselves in cleaning the Port beach during the 'International coastal cleanup 2024', event. This initiative was organised by Indian Coast Guard, Tuticorin, as a part of the Swachhata Hi Seva, campaign of the Government of India

EVENTS

'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign

On 25.09.2024, the senior officers of the Port planted fruit saplings at the Port's Orchard, as a part of the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' (A tree in the name of Mother) campaign, a nationwide initiative launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on June 5, 2024, to celebrate motherhood and environmental conservation



RETIREMENTS

July 2024



Shri A. Rajamanickam,
Dy. Chief Accounts Officer,
Finance Department.



Shri K. Sudalaimani,
Superintendent Engineer,
Civil Engineering Department.



Smt. P. Krishnaveni,
PS to Chairperson.
General Administration Department.

August 2024



Shri T. Mayan,
Lascar,
Marine Department.



Shri A. Oorkavalan,
Mazdoor,
Traffic Department.

September 2024



Shri Bimal Kumar Jha,
Deputy Chairperson.



Shri R. Prabakar,
Traffic Manager,
Traffic Department.



Shri M. George Kennedy,
Supervisor,
Traffic Department.