



## ASSOCIATION OF MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT OPERATORS OF INDIA

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### Rotterdam Port makes an extra 100 hectares available at Maasvlakte 2 for distribution companies



INCREASING demand for port-related logistics real estate has resulted in the Port of Rotterdam Authority classifying a further 100 hectares of land at Maasvlakte 2 as a distribution park. 'Distripark Maasvlakte West' is currently the only available 'greenfield' site for distribution in the Port of Rotterdam.

"Distripark Maasvlakte West is now available for allocation," said Mr Maarten de Wijs, Business Manager Distribution & Warehousing at the Port of Rotterdam Authority. "There is a lot of interest from the market. That's because it's a top location for both logistics service providers and shippers as well as real estate developers and investors." The site has multimodal links by road, rail and water and is located just a stone's throw from high-frequency deep-sea and short-sea connections. The new Distripark is also located conveniently for the A15, the Maasvlakte Plaza Truck parking area, the existing Maasvlakte distripark and the freight rail links between Maasvlakte and the European hinterland.

The site is being allocated in plots of various sizes. Coupled with the fact that there are no construction height restrictions, this makes Maasvlakte West Distripark extremely suitable for the development of large-scale distribution. Mr de Wijs particularly sees opportunities for the chemical industry, cold storage and the distribution of high-quality freight.

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### Air cargo traffic growth at 3-year high

Air cargo traffic growth in India reached a 3-year high in November 2017, on the back of double-digit increase in both domestic and international cargo volumes.

"Air cargo volumes are closely linked to domestic and international macroeconomic conditions. Given the recovery in domestic economic activities post the transitional impact of Goods and Services Tax (GST) rollout, the cargo volumes have picked up. Both domestic and international cargo volumes reported robust growth in November 2017, increasing by 17 per cent and 21 per cent year-on-year, respectively," said Mr Harsh Jagnani, Vice-President and Sector Head for Corporate Ratings, ICRA.

Meanwhile, air passenger traffic in the country, at 26 million in November 2017, has exhibited a healthy year-on-year growth of 15 per cent, a release said.

## ONE to offer extensive liner network service portfolio



Ocean Network Express Pte Ltd, or ONE, the new merged container liner business entity of MOL, "K" Line and NYK, plans to offer an extensive liner network service portfolio covering over 100 countries internationally. Its key focus will be on enhanced service and innovation, supported by a highly professional and experienced organisation, stressed an official communiqué.

Some of the salient features of ONE are a global fleet of over 250 vessels, active participation in all major global trade lanes, deployment of the latest IT systems and an extensive terminal ownership portfolio.

The core values of ONE include Quality, Reliability, Innovation and Customer Satisfaction. Built around an organisation which prides itself on Teamwork and Best Practice, the communiqué highlighted.

## NHAI executing pilot project for new toll collection system

Paving the way for the implementation of the Budget announcement regarding "pay as you use" tolling in India, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is executing a pilot project to study the implementation of a new system in the country. The pilot project involves implementing a satellite-based electronic toll collection system running on GPS/GSM technology for around **500 commercial vehicles on the Delhi-Mumbai national highway**. The project will run for one year.

Working on a combination of mobile telecommunications technology (GSM) and the satellite-based Global Positioning System (GPS), the proposed tolling system would be able to deduct money from a vehicle account, credit the money to the concessionaire within one day and open the toll gate. In case of a failed transaction, it would be able to alert the toll operator to collect payment manually and not open the gate.

The pilot project will look at ways to integrate the new solution with the existing pre-paid wallet account offered by NHAI under the FASTag program. It will also draw a comparison between distance-based tolling and the existing tolling system, as also virtual tolling vs normal tolling, said a release.

## Coal imports Down



As per the current import policy, coal is under Open General License (OGL) and consumers are free to import the commodity from the source of their choice as per their contractual prices on payment of applicable duty. However, coal imports have fallen from 217.78 Mte in 2014-15 to 203.95 Mte in 2015-16 and further to 190.95 Mte in 2016-17, said a release.

### Coal India Ltd.

The trend of fall in import of coal has continued in 2017-18. As per DGCI&S, during April-October 2017-18, 118.86 Mte (provisional) of coal was imported as compared to 121.14 Mte in the corresponding period of 2016-17, showing a decline of 1.9 per cent. The fall in imports is largely on account of enhanced production by Coal India Ltd (CIL), the release said.

However, the gap between demand and supply of coal cannot be bridged completely as there is insufficient domestic availability of coking coal, and power plants designed on imported coal will continue to import for their production,

## Humor



Everyone brings  
Joy to this Office

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Some when they  
enter and others  
when they leave