



## ASSOCIATION OF MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT OPERATORS OF INDIA

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### India calls upon Bangladesh to use Kolkata & Haldia as transshipment ports

India has called upon Bangladesh to use two of its ports, viz. Kolkata and Haldia, for transshipment purposes. The proposal was put forward at a Ministerial meeting in Dhaka last week.

The initiative can make coastal shipping more cost-effective for bilateral trade and shift cargo from the costly land route and create an opportunity for Bangladesh-based garment exporters to reach European and US markets avoiding congestion at the Chittagong port. The Indian Customs authorities have already cleared the deck for Bangladesh to use Haldia as a transshipment port. However, Bangladesh is yet to accede to India's request.

Keeping in tune with growing trade volumes, the crux of the proposal is the growing need to augment handling capacities on either side.

### Coastal container line vessel calls at KICT

The third coastal container line vessel *MV TCI Express* berthed at KICT, Deendayal Port Trust (DPT) on Monday morning. TCI Seaways is running the DPT-NMPT-CoPT circuit. It plans to induct three vessels in this circuit, said a release.

The vessel arrived at Kandla on October 14, 2018 at around 1800 hours and berthed at KICTPL on October 15 at 0445 hours. Cargo operations commenced at 0536 hours. The vessel had an exchange of 1,500 TEUs on her very first call to Kandla, on this coastal service between Kandla and Cochin.

A plaque was exchanged on board with the vessel Master, the occasion being also graced by Mr R. U. Singh, President and CEO of TCI Seaways. *MV TCI Express* sailed for Cochin on the evening of October 16

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## V.O.C. Port handles vessel with 14 metre draught for the first time

On October 15, 2018, V. O. Chidambaranar Port, for the first time in its history, handled a vessel with 14 metre draught. The Panama-flagged vessel, *MV Zheng Jun*, was docked at the North Cargo Berth-I at 1600 hours. With a length of 229 m and beam of 32.26 m, it had arrived from the port of Samarinda, Indonesia with 74,962 tonnes of coal for Neyveli Thermal Power Ltd (NTPL). GAC Shipping (India) Pvt. Ltd, Tuticorin was the vessel agent, said a release.

Capt. J. Kingston Neel Durai and Capt. N. Venkatesh, Pilots, under the guidance of Capt. Bhabatosh Chand, Deputy Conservator, guided the ship safely to the berth.

Earlier, on June 20, 2018, the port had handled *MV Dionysus*, a vessel with draught of 13.20 metre, which discharged 60,500 tonnes of rock phosphate for Greenstar Fertilizers, Tuticorin.

Mr Rinkesh Roy, Chairman, V.O. Chidambaranar Port, thanked the entire team which brought this first vessel with 14 metre draught to the port. He said, "With the developmental projects on the horizon, this record-size vessel calling the port will be a game-changer to the port to handle more cargo and the trade to reap the benefits of economies of scale in handling coal, limestone, rock phosphate and other bulk cargo."

## Paradip Port achieves all-time record in vessel movement & single-day cargo handling

Paradip Port has successfully completed movement of 27 vessels within 20 hours, i.e. from 6 am on October 13 to 2 am on October 14, 2018. In the first shift 12 vessels were handled, followed by 11 in the second shift and 4 in the third. These included 16 berthing, 1 single point mooring, 3 outward movement of vessels, 1 shifting from one berth to another, and 6 smaller vessel movements, highlighted a release.

16 berthing movements is a rare feat as most of the berths were vacant due to the passing of Cyclone Titli during which cargo operations / shipping movements were stopped for two days. The vessel calls scheduled during the stoppage period were recovered in a single day. Despite having no control over impending natural calamities from time to time, the way the port recovered shows the vibrant mindset of its employees to convert challenges into opportunities, the release emphasised.

## Indian companies investing in Africa & forging new people-driven partnerships: Minister

Indian companies are not only investing in Africa but are also forging new people-driven partnerships and creating jobs, which are impacting lives of common people in these countries," said Mr C. R. Chaudhary, Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry.

He was addressing the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)-Exim Bank Regional Conclave on India-West Africa organised on October 8-9, 2018 in Abuja, Nigeria, to focus on the emerging synergies and complementarities between the two emerging regions.

The Minister appealed to all West African countries to avail of India's Duty Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) scheme to increase their exports to India. He expressed hope that the conclave will open "a new chapter in India-West African economic relations." "The CII-Exim Bank Regional Conclave on West Africa is happening at the right place at the right time to steer multi-dimensional relations between India and West Africa onto a higher trajectory

# Humor

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