

7th One-Day Workshop on Dock Safety & Handling of Hazardous Chemicals

Cochin Port Authority in collaboration with the Directorate General Factory Advice Service & Labour Institutes (DGFASLI) and with NIT Calicut as the technical partner successfully organised One-Day Workshop on Dock Safety & Handling of Hazardous Chemicals at Casino Hotel, Willingdon Island, Cochin. This is the 7th One-Day Workshop conducted by the DGFASLI in the Major Ports which is part of a nationwide initiative aimed at enhancing safety awareness, regulatory compliance, risk mitigation strategies, and emergency preparedness in port operations involving hazardous substances across all major ports in India.

With around 100 participants from Cochin Port and leading organisations such as Petronet LNG Ltd. (PLL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd.-STF (BPCL-STF), Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL), Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL), Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL), India Gateway Terminal Pvt. Ltd. (IGTPL) and more, the event focused on strengthening safety standards in port operations.

Inaugurating the workshop, Shri B. Kasiviswanathan, IRSME, Chairperson, Cochin Port Authority emphasised the port's commitment for improving safety protocols and ensuring worker well-being. He also emphasised the importance of ensuring safety by preventive management and predictive monitoring of equipments & process for accident free working conditions and also the requirement of proper safety protocols and standard operating system to ensure compliance of safety regulations. Shri Sumit Roy, Deputy Director General & CIDS, DGFASLI, delivered the introductory address, highlighting the importance of regulatory compliance, workforce competence, and risk mitigation measures in dock operations. With NIT Calicut as the technical partner, the sessions provided expert insights into national and international regulatory frameworks, competency-building, risk mitigation strategies, and medical preparedness. Discussions also covered safety best practices, emergency response measures, predictive hazard modelling, and regulatory enforcement, reinforcing the need for proactive risk management in port operations.

The workshop concluded with key takeaways emphasising proactive risk assessment, enhanced supervision, and capacity building for dock workers. It reaffirmed the commitment to strengthening safety measures and fostering industry collaboration to improve dock operations. As the 7th workshop in this series, it marked another significant step toward creating a safer and more resilient maritime sector across India's major ports.

(26.03.2025)