



Press Release

Projects in Cochin Port Trust under PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan for Multi-modal connectivity

In a historic event for the infrastructure landscape of the country, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched PM Gati Shakti - National Master Plan for Multi-modal connectivity, on 13th October, 2021. PM Gati Shakti to break Departmental silos approach and institutionalize holistic planning for stakeholders across major infrastructure projects. It incorporates the infrastructure schemes of various Ministries and State Governments like Bharatmala, Sagarmala, inland waterways, dry/land ports, UDAN etc. Economic Zones like textile clusters, pharmaceutical clusters, defence corridors, electronic parks, industrial corridors, fishing clusters, agri zones are covered to improve connectivity & make Indian businesses more competitive. It also leverage technology extensively including spatial planning tools with ISRO imagery developed by BISAG-N (Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geoinformatics). Now all Departments will have visibility of each others' projects through a centralized portal which will culminate to execution and completion of projects in time bound and economical manner.

PM Gati Shakti is the result of Prime Minister's constant endeavour to build Next Generation Infrastructure which improves Ease of Living as well as Ease of Doing Business. The Multi-modal connectivity will provide integrated and seamless connectivity for movement of people, goods and services from one mode of transport to another. It will create multiple employment opportunities and give a boost to the economy. It will improve the global competitiveness of local products by cutting down the logistics costs and improving the supply chains, and also ensure proper linkages for local industry & consumers.

Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, with the inspiration of PM Gati Shakti has taken a comprehensive initiatives and measures for various ongoing and future ports projects for facilitating ease of doing business (EoDB) as well as bringing operational efficiency through technology (OETT) to give a boost to growth under the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan. The Hon'ble Union Cabinet Minister, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways emphasized that integrated efforts which are being taken by ports in India and others will add speed to development works around the nation. The Hon'ble Minister emphasized on promotion of the Hon'ble PM's Atmanirbhar Bharat mission and skill development so that India's youth can be benefited.

Cochin Port taking inspiration from the PM Gati Shakti scheme and with the able guidance of Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, in its own way is going to participate in the development of infrastructure of India. The following projects of Cochin Port are part of Gati Shakti Master Plan.

Projects of Cochin Port included in the Gati Shakti master plan.

(i) Development of Multi-User Liquid Terminal (MULT) - Capital dredging:

The construction of MULT jetty at Puthuvypeen, to handle ships of upto 80,000 DWT, LOA-230m, Draft-13m, has been completed (at a cost of about Rs.180 crores) except for the capital dredging of jetty basin (at a cost of Rs.72.68 cr.) which has now been taken up and targeting for completion by Aug./Sept. 2022.

(P.T.O)

The commissioning of MULT jetty, which is intended primarily for LPG import by IOCL, will surely benefit the public as LPG has now become an essential commodity for all. With the commissioning of such a facility in Kerala, the road movement of bulk LPG and the consequential road mishaps can be avoided. This jetty with a capacity of 4.1 MMTPA will also be utilised for handling POL products including bunker fuels. Commissioning of the Jetty will also open scope to handle other petroleum product.

(ii) Re-Construction of South Coal Berth (SCB):

SCB, which was commissioned in 1953 and all along being used for handling FACT's Ammonia was in a dilapidated condition and so, its reconstruction at a cost of Rs.19.19 cr. with 50% funding from Central Govt. under Sagarmala and 25% funding each from FACT (advance as per MoU executed on 28/07/2020) and CoPT, was taken up.

This project including dismantling of the existing jetty and construction of a new jetty of size 110m x 12m with all ancillary structures, to cater to vessels upto 35,000 DWT (183.60m LoA, 27.60m Beam and 9.14m draft and 1.3 MMTPA capacity), is underway. The foundation stone for this project was laid by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 14/02/2021 and is expected to be completed by April, 2022.

Though this dedicated berth for chemicals, is primarily meant for handling Ammonia and other cargo for FACT, it will be utilized for handling chemicals/liquid cargo for other users also.

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