



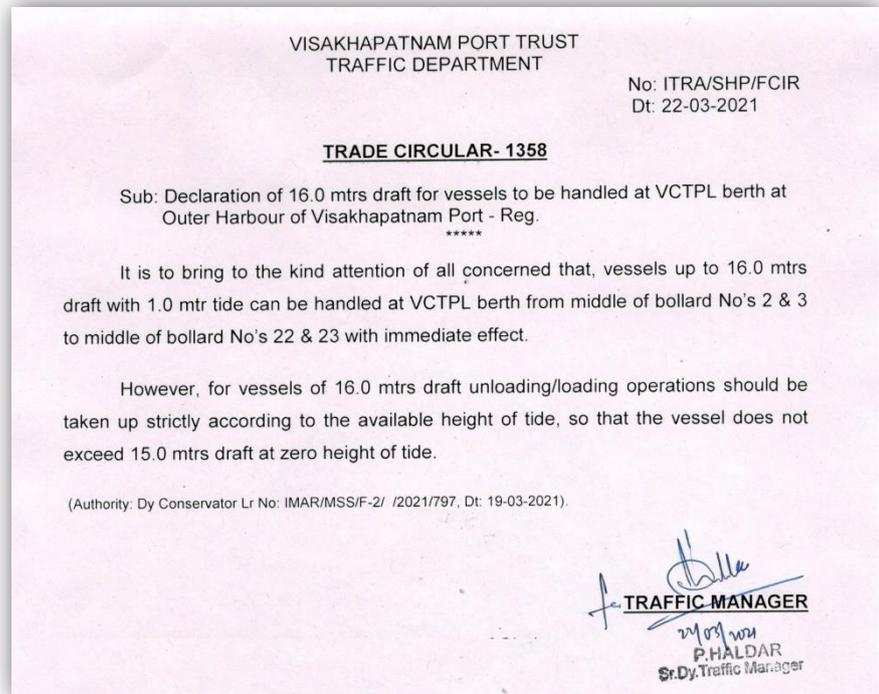
Vessels With 16 Meters Draft Can Be Handled @ VCT

In the earlier edition of Vaartha during the month of November'20, we covered the good news on vessels as large as 390 metres LOA can be handled at Visakha Container Terminal after successful simulation study carried by VPT.

Yet another great news to the shipping fraternity is that container vessels with 15 metres draft can be handled in VCT at zero tide and vessels with 16 meters draft can be handled at 1 meter tide. This could be achieved with the proactive steps including required dredging carried out by the VPT marine department ably led by Deputy Conservator and his team.

"The reference of the notice: Temporary Notice to Mariners No. DC/HS/CG/8201 DT. 06.07.2001"

These developments are happening at the most appropriate time while the expansion project of existing container terminal at VCT is going on in fast pace. The first phase of this expansion with 100 meter quay wall out of 395 metre quay wall planned shall be ready for operations by April '21. The terminal expansion warrants new services and capacity expansion in the existing services too and hence no better time than this to receive this trade circular from Visakhapatnam Port Trust confirming the new marine parameters.



Extension Of Rebates On Vessel Related Charges

Visakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) has extended the rebates on Vessel Related Charges for another year till 31.03.2022. It is indeed a great relief to the vessel operators when the expenses are going up due to the shipping disruptions caused by the deadly virus that continues to wreak havoc in the shipping trade. Hence, no better time for the port to extend its support to the trade. The details of the concession are as under.

GRT Based Concession:

- 1) 50% rebate on Port Dues and Pilotage for vessels having less than 50,000 GRT.
- 2) 70% rebate on Port Dues and Pilotage for vessels having more than 50,000 GRT.

Concession on Transshipment Containers:

- 1) Concession of 70% in Port Duties and Pilotage for container vessels with GRT less than 50,000 MT carrying minimum inward of 250 TEUs for Transshipment.
- 2) Concession of 80% in Port Duties and Pilotage for container vessels with GRT more than 50,000 MT carrying minimum inward of 250 TEUs for Transshipment.



Shipping Secretary Visits Visakhapatnam Port

Dr. Sanjeev Ranjan, IAS, Secretary in Ministry of Ports Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW), Govt. of India, visited Visakhapatnam port on 28th day of March 2021. The Visakhapatnam Port Trust Chairman Shri. K Rama Mohana Rao, IAS received the Secretary and showed the facilities available in the port. A brief on infrastructure facilities, cargo capacity handling, modernization and mechanization, covered storage facilities, solar power, sewage treatment plant for internal and industrial purpose etc., was given to the secretary. Moreover, the opportunities available in the incremental business on both export and imports was explained in detail too.



Later, Dr. Sanjeev Ranjan accompanied by Shri K Rama Mohana Rao, IAS, VPT Chairman, Shri Durgesh Kumar Dubey, IRTS, Dy. Chairman, VPT along with other officials visited Visakha Container Terminal to understand the terminal operation. A warm welcome was accorded to the Shipping Secretary by the VCT team. He was briefed about the infrastructure available at VCT, the expansion progress of the container terminal and the potential for Visakhapatnam emerging as a container hub port on the East coast of India.

VISITORS AT VISAKHA CONTAINER TERMINAL



(Right) Mr. Shankar Menon, Director along with Mr. Sita Ram, GM – Chakiat Shipping Services Pvt. Ltd. Visited on 01.03.21



(3rd & 4th from left) Mr. Vijaya Kumar & Mr. Kishore Kumar from LIXIL along with Team from DSV Logistics. Visited on 05.03.21



(2nd, 3rd & 4th from left) Mr. Kumaresan Rajendran, CMD, Mr. M.M. Prasad, CMD, Mr. M. V. Jagannath, Director, (1st from left) Mr. V. Rajesh, Sr. Manager from SNF (India) Pvt. Ltd. Visited on 20.03.21



(2nd from right) Mr. T. Venkata Siva, Director – The R Group along with his team. Visited on 22.03.21



(From right) Mr. Amlan Mohapatra, Sr. Manager & team from NALCO. Visited on 23.03.21

Maritime India Summit 2021 – On Virtual Platform for the First Time

The 2nd Maritime India Summit organized by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways on the 2nd day of March 2021 was inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India Shri. Narendra Modi. The main agenda of the summit was to position the Indian maritime sector at par with international standards and attract both domestic & international investors. The virtual event showcased around 400 projects in partnership with 24 countries around the world. The country's maritime sector plays a crucial role in its overall trade and growth with 95% of the country's trade volume and 65% of trade value being handled by maritime transport and has augmented its capacity by over 65% across all Major Ports in the last 5 years. Maritime India Vision 2030 has identified over 150 initiatives across 10 themes covering all the facets of the Indian maritime sector.



Visakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) has not left any stone unturned to make its presence on top of the list when it comes to development among the Major Ports. Stakeholders in the maritime sector such as policy planners, government agencies, domestic and international investors, sector experts, shipping lines, representatives of ports across the globe and state maritime boards participated in the summit. Mr. YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, Chief Minister – Andhra Pradesh attended the session on March 3rd and signed around 45 MoUs with an estimated investment of Rs. 45,000 crores for industries which are port-led. The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh

while addressing the gathering on virtual platform mentioned that the development of Agriculture, Maritime, Coastal Tourism, Chemical & Biotechnology, Ship Building etc., are in fact the key growth drivers of the country's economy whereas for Andhra Pradesh few more drivers have also played a key role towards the growth like Development of Port Infrastructure, Support System etc. Likewise, special concentration is on the development of units like Manufacturing, Food Processing, Petro Chemicals and Pharma etc.

One of the main attractions of the summit was VPT and Chennai Port Trust jointly convening a session on Port-led Industrialization, building port cities and maritime clusters. Themes such as development of port infrastructure, shipbuilding, recycling and repair, hinterland connectivity, multi-modal logistics, coastal shipping, inland water transport, bulk cargo transportation, port-led industrialization, green technologies, skill development and maritime financing were covered.

This Maritime India Summit came up with some opportunities for the upcoming industrial sector. Visakha Container Terminal being an ideal gateway on the east coast of India will prove its mettle with highest standards for the support of the Port-led industries. VCT therefore will provide the best platform for EXIM activities of the companies which is expected to grow in near future. The terminal is also fully set to handle the envisaged growth that would be generated by the new units coming up in the vicinity and beyond.

Mango Crop: Exports Poised To Reach The Horizon

Good news to the mango farmers & exporters as the mango crop is expected to get a bumper yield this year. Horticulture department along with Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) are making plans to export mangoes in good quantity and quality in-order to make Andhra Pradesh the leading state for mango exports. Majority of mango growers in the state cultivate Banganapalli, Chinna Rasalu, Peddha Rasalu, Totapuri, Neelam and Suvarnarekha varieties of mangoes. Mangoes are produced abundantly in Andhra Pradesh especially in the regions of East & West Godavari, Krishna Districts etc.

Most of the crop is consumed domestically but there is a huge demand of this variety of fruit in New Zealand, Europe and Middle East Regions as well. As per the estimates around 3.8 lakh hectares might be under mango cultivation this year. The horticulture department claims that mango farms in the state are in full bloom and are expected to have above normal crop this summer. The crop experts reckon this year yield will be around four to five tonnes per acer as compared to two to three tonnes in the previous year. Therefore, a total yield of 46 lakh tonnes of mangoes is expected this year.



Various buyer-seller meetings are in pipe line across Andhra Pradesh with special focus on export quality mangoes. Horticulture commissioner Mr. Chiranjiv Choudhary said that Andhra Pradesh had exported over 1,500 metric tonnes of mangoes to various countries in 2019 and added that the pandemic took a significant hit on mango exports in 2020. This year, special steps were taken to control fruit flies. With robust flowering and favourable climatic conditions, a good yield is expected where plans to export more quantity of mangoes to other countries is also being chalked out. Mango growers, traders and exporters will get at least 30% to 40% more revenue if their produce is exported to foreign countries as compared to domestic market.

Erstwhile during the month of May 2020 a trial shipment of Mango exports to London was done which was successful and seamless. With the experts' opinion on the better yield in this fiscal the ideal gateway for the Mango shipments would be VCT which is all set and geared to handle the incremental reefer traffic.

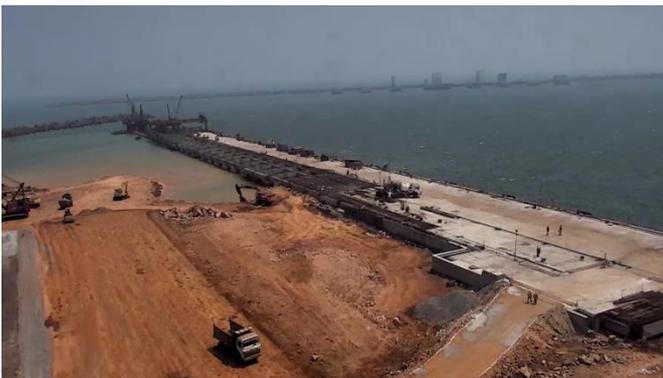
VSEZ Exports Crosses Rs. 1 Trillion

Visakhapatnam, rightly called the 'City of Destiny', is a major industrial center in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Visakhapatnam Special Economic Zone (VSEZ) was established in the year 1989 in an area of 360 acres. It is indeed a great news that VSEZ has achieved export of Rs. 1 trillion during FY 2020-21. In terms of growth, it is for the first time that VSEZ stood first among all SEZs in the country. VSEZ achieved a growth of 15.6% in the year 2020-21 and this is only possible because of industry friendly initiatives taken by the Government.



The exports posted revenue worth Rs. 1, 03,513 crore during the year against Rs. 96,886 crore during 2019-20. All 61 SEZs in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh come under the VSEZ. Duvvada SEZ has exported goods worth Rs 1,642 crore this fiscal year against Rs 1,504 crore last year and achieved a growth of 9.17 per cent and generated employment to about 3,921 people. The performance of software and services sector was better during the lockdown and hence they had achieved performance of 66% during this period. The Central Government of India also aided this performance by waiving off increase in rentals this year and postponed payment of lease by three months. Single window clearance was one of the factors which have enhanced the hassle free export from VSEZ. For all the exports generated from the VSEZ, Visakha Container Terminal has been the gateway to carry the EXIM activities. During lockdown period also VCT was operational 24x7 and ensured that the demand of the trade for EXIM traffic movement was met hassle free.

VCT Expansion Progress Update



First Phase of 100 m to be ready by end of April '21.
Will enhance the quay length to 550 meters.



Yard reclamation work in progress