

Ports

- ❖ The **construction work on Machilipatnam Port is likely to commence by January 2023**. The government of Andhra Pradesh has signed an agreement with Megha Engineering and Infrastructures Limited (MEIL) and has handed over the port construction work order. The project is likely to receive environmental clearance soon. The first phase of the project will begin immediately thereafter and is expected to be completed within 30 months. The project involves development of a greenfield, modern, all-weather, deep-water, multi-purpose port at Machilipatnam in Krishna district in a phased manner on engineering, procurement and construction basis. Phase I will be developed with 15 million tonnes per annum (mtpa) capacity at a revised estimated cost of Rs 51.55 billion. Out of which, the state government will provide financial assistance of Rs 10 billion for the same.
- ❖ **Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) handled 53.58 million tonnes (mt) of total traffic during the period April to November 2022, an increase of 9.23 per cent as compared to the corresponding period of FY 2022**. Meanwhile, the container traffic has increased by 7.59 per cent from 36,52,474 twenty-foot equivalent tonnes (TEUs) during April-November 2021 to 39,29,735 TEUs during the April-November 2022. According to reports, Wharf and Approach Trestle construction has commenced for Phase 2 of PSA Mumbai with the first pile drilling. The terminal will be doubling capacity to 4.8 million TEUs. The construction was launched by the Chairman of JNPA.
- ❖ In a similar development, **V. O. Chidambaranar Port (V.O.C.), Tuticorin handled 24.70 mt of cargo during April-November 2022, registering an increase of 6.64 per cent as compared to the corresponding period of FY 2022**. The main cargoes which contributed to the increase were coal 15.63 per cent, limestone 34.04 per cent, fertiliser 231.26 per cent and fertiliser raw 14.55 per cent.
- ❖ Reportedly, **Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (APSEZL) is likely to acquire Karaikal Port soon**. Currently, the lenders of the port have approved APSEZL's offer of Rs 12 billion for the acquisition, however the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) is yet to approve the same. It was admitted for bankruptcy proceedings in April 2022. Karaikal Port, commissioned in April 2009 and developed on an area of 600 hectares, is located near the town of Karaikal in the Union Territory of Pondicherry, India. APSEZL handled about 25.3 million metric tonnes (mmt) of total cargo during November 2022. This includes year-on-year growth of 6 per cent in container volumes and 2 per cent in dry bulk cargo. During April-November 2022, APSEZL witnessed about 228 mmt of cargo volume, which is about 9 per cent year-on-year growth.
- ❖ **Dredging Corporation of India Limited has won a contract worth Rs 600 million for reclamation dredging at Numaligarh Refinery Limited's (NRL) crude oil import terminal at Paradip Port for the year 2022-23**. The work involves transportation and pumping of dredged material from the sand trap at Paradip Port to the crude oil import terminal of NRL in Odisha.
- ❖ **Jan De Nul Dredging India Private Limited has been shortlisted as technically qualified for undertaking capital dredging phase V at Kamarajar Port**. Bids for the same were invited by Kamarajar Port Limited in September 2022. The scope of the project involves execution of capital dredging phase V at Kamarajar Port in Tamil Nadu under single stage two cover system. The dredging quantity is about 2.60 million cubic metres and 0.5 million cubic metres of dry excavation. The estimated cost of the project is Rs 1.45 billion.
- ❖ **A total of three firms have submitted bids for appointment of independent engineer for providing engineering consultancy services for upgradation of Jawaharlal Nehru Port Container Terminal (JNPCT)**. These include: Egis India Consulting Engineers Private Limited, Indian Register of Shipping (IRCLASS) Systems and Solutions Private Limited and Tractebel Engineering Private Limited. The project involves berth upgradation and replacement/deployment of other equipments at JNPCT on UOMT basis

under public-private partnership (PPP) model with a concession period of 30 years in Maharashtra at an estimated cost of Rs 8,720 million. It is also proposed to increase the rail mounted quay crane (RMQC) rail span from 20 metre to 30.5 metre at the port. This project will be implemented in two phases.

❖ The **V.O. Chidambaranar Port Trust (VOCPT)** has **further extended the bid due date** for the **mechanisation of north cargo berth (NCB)-III project** at **V. O. Chidambaranar Port (VOCPT)** from **December 1, 2022 to December 15, 2022**. The scope of work includes dredging for handling dry bulk cargo at NCB at an estimated cost of Rs 3,563.9 million. The project involves mechanisation of NCB-III at VOC Port for handling coal in Tamil Nadu through PPP mode on design, build, finance, operate and transfer (DBFOT) basis.

Shipping

❖ The **construction work on phase-I of Vizhinjam international container transshipment terminal project resumed on December 8, 2022**. Around 75 per cent of the total work of the port has been completed. However, the work on the breakwater is far from over. Only 1.4 km of the total 3.1 km has been completed yet. In addition, only 33 per cent of dredging is over. Only after the completion of the breakwater works, can the remaining dredging, reclamation of sea, and container berth works be resumed. The project involves construction of a greenfield, deepwater international container transshipment terminal at Vizhinjam in Kerala on DBFOT basis for a concession period of 40 years.

❖ In a notable development, **Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC)** announced the **launch of a new direct service**, which will **connect India with the West Mediterranean**. The services are expected to start in mid- December 2022. The service will offer Mundra to Genoa in 19 days, Valencia in 23 days and Nhava Sheva to Barcelona in 16 days, with no transshipment required between load and discharge ports. This will reduce transshipment for customers and provide expedited transit times.

❖ **Ocean Network Express** has announced that it will **launch a new weekly service, IGS, connecting India to/from the United Arab Emirates**. The service has the following port rotation; Jebel Ali – Mundra – Hazira – Nhava Sheva – Jebel Ali.

Inland Water Transport

❖ The **Inland Waterways Authority of India** has invited bids for **bank-to-bank detailed hydrographic survey** for the **National Waterway-2 from Bangladesh border to Neamati on November 29, 2022**. The last date for bid submission is January 4, 2023. The hydrographic survey (both bathymetric and topographic) is to be conducted in seven stretches. Stretch 1 is from Bangladesh border to Chunari (0 km to 85.7 km). The estimated length of the stretch is 85.7 km. The work is expected to be completed at an estimated cost of Rs 16.44 million. Stretch 2 is from Chunari to Pam Dongra (85.7 km to 173.1). The estimated length of the stretch is 87.4 km. The work is expected to be completed at an estimated cost of Rs 16.44 million. Stretch 3 is from Pam Dongra to Pandu (173.1 km to 259.5 km). The estimated length of the stretch is 86.4 km. The work is expected to be completed at an estimated cost of Rs 16.44 million. Stretch 4 is from Pandu to Tengalur (259.5 km to 357 km). The estimated length of the stretch is 97.5 km. The work is expected to be completed at an estimated cost of Rs 14.27 million. Stretch 5 is from Tengalur to Bahumaricharai (357 km to 458 km). The estimated length of the stretch is 101 km. The work is expected to be completed at an estimated cost of Rs 14.27 million. Stretch 6 is from Bahumaricharai to Telibari (458 km to 548.5 km). The estimated length of the stretch is 90.5 km. The work is expected to be completed at an estimated cost of Rs 14.27 million. Stretch 7 is from Telibari to Neamati (548.5 km to 629.3 km). The estimated length of the stretch is 80.8 km. The work is expected to be completed at an estimated cost of Rs 14.27 million.