

Ports & Shipping Weekly Newsletter

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November 27, 2023- December 03, 2023

Ports

❖ The **construction work** on the **Vadhavan Satellite Port Project (Dahanu/Wadhwan Port)** is **expected to commence** by **2024**. The project has received cabinet approval and finance ministry in-principal approval and is likely to receive all the clearances by mid-January 2024. The project involves the development of an all-weather port at Vadhavan, 140 km north of Mumbai in Maharashtra. The port will be developed as a landlord port. A special purpose vehicle (SPV) will be formed by the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) as the lead partner with equity participation of 74 per cent and Maharashtra Maritime Board with 26 per cent of equity to implement the project. The capacity and estimated cost of the project are 254 million tonnes per annum (mtpa) (including 9.87 million twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs)) and Rs 738.94 billion respectively.

❖ The **JSW Infrastructure Limited's subsidiary company, Masad Infra Services Private Limited** has **recently signed an agreement** with the **Karnataka Maritime Board (KMB)** to **develop a greenfield port** in the **state**. On November 16, 2023, JSW Infrastructure received a letter of award to develop a greenfield port at Keni Port in Karnataka on a public-private partnership basis for Rs 41.19 billion. The port is envisaged as an all-weather, greenfield, multi-cargo, direct berthing, deep-water commercial port for handling all types of cargoes on the west coast in the North Karnataka region to serve the industries in the area covering Bellary, Hosapete, Hubballi, Kalaburagi, and South Maharashtra. It is located strategically between two operational major ports viz. Mormugao Port in the north and New Mangalore Port in the south.

❖ As per reports, a **bulk cargo transshipment hub** can be **developed** in **Atlanta Bay, Andaman and Nicobar (A&N) Islands** and a **feasibility study** for **developing** it into a **major harbour** is **under process**. Currently a jetty with 5 metres draft allows berthing of inter-island vessels of 4 metres draft. Atlanta Bay has a natural draft of 19-20 metres, there is the availability of natural break and is well connected by a road network. Considering its strategic location, on the northern side of A&N Islands, a 10-metres draft harbour is essential to promote high-end tourism and other essential purposes. Once operationalised, the travel time between major ports at Andaman and Kolkata will be reduced from 72 hours to 15 hours. This transshipment hub is on the route from east and north-eastern India to the east and southeast Asia, Australia-New Zealand countries. It is also on the route, of coal, sand and other construction materials, iron ore etc., to Bangladesh and Myanmar.

❖ In a recent development, the **maximum draught** for **berth no. 15 and 16** at the **New Mangalore Port (NMP)** has been **increased to 14.00 metres** with a **1.0 metre height of rising tide**. This was done due to continuous dredging and was facilitated by improvement in water depth at the approach channel and berth face.

❖ On **November 25, 2023**, the **Gateway Terminals of India (GTI)** handled **6,210 TEUs** of **volume by road**. This is the highest volume handled at the terminal since its inception in 2006. The APM Terminals Mumbai also known as GTI is part of APM Terminals global ports/terminal network. It is a joint venture between APM Terminals and the Container Corporation of India.

❖ The **Jan De Nul Dredging India Private Limited** has **emerged** as the **lowest bidder (L1)** for **dredging works** at the **V. O. Chidambaranar (VOC) Port** in **Tamil Nadu**. The company has quoted an amount worth Rs 1.67 billion. Bids for the same were invited by the VOC Port Trust in April 2023. Besides, International Seaport Dredging Private Limited (ISD) has emerged as L2 bidder (Rs 1.88 billion). The project involves dredging of the dock basin in front of the north cargo berth (NCB)- III to (-)15.10 metres for handling vessels up to 14.20 metres draught at the port. It is expected to be completed in seven months.

Shipping

❖ On **November 30, 2023**, **three ships** in the **series** of **eight anti-submarine warfare shallow water crafts** were **simultaneously launched** at a **shipyard** in **Kochi**. These ships are constructed at Cochin

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Shipyard Limited for the Indian Navy. The three ships, which will be named INS Mahe, INS Malvan, and INS Mangrol will be ready for delivery by November 2024. They will replace the Indian Navy's in-service Abhay class ASW corvettes and are designed for anti-submarine operations in coastal waters, low-intensity maritime, mine laying, and sub-surface surveillance operations. With a length of 78 meters and a displacement of approximately 900 tonnes, the ASW SWC ships have a maximum speed of 25 knots.

❖ On **November 27, 2023**, the **third ship, Zhen Hua 24**, from **Nantong in China reached Vizhinjam International Seaport with six-yard cranes**. The fourth ship, Zhan Hua-15, is expected to reach the port by December 15, 2023. This ship will bring two ship-to-shore cranes and three-yard cranes.

❖ The **Container Corporation of India Limited is set to transport fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) cargo to increase its domestic market share**. The company has experienced a growth in domestic market share of approximately 25 per cent over the past two years. It has introduced 12 feet high containers, addressing the load ability constraints associated with standard 20 feet containers. This step aims to reduce per-unit costs for customers. The company has ordered 1,000 of the 12 feet high containers, with 180 already in operation and the remaining expected to commence commercial operations soon. Moreover, the multi-modal logistics park Paradip, one of the newest terminals of the Container Corporation of India was inaugurated on November 27, 2023. It has been developed on over 100 acres of land allotted by the Paradip Port Authority on lease. The MMLP is equipped with seven railway lines, warehouses, modern handling machines, in-motion weighbridges, dedicated shunting locomotive, besides many other ancillary facilities.

❖ The **Adani Logistics Limited has recently started its inland container depot (ICD) facility at Borkhedi, Nagpur**. The ICD is spread over a 75-acre area and most of the required infrastructure, storage facilities and equipment to handle containers have been created.

Inland Water Transport

❖ On **November 29, 2023**, the **luxury vessel 'Classic Imperial' inaugurated at the neo classic boat jetty at the Marine drive**. It is one of the biggest tourist vessel in Kerala which can accommodate up to 150 passengers at a time. The vessel is 50 metres long, 11 metres wide and 10 metres high with Indian Registrar of Shipping (IRS) safety certification.

❖ The **Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) has extended the request for proposal (RfP) bid due date for undertaking maintenance dredging for assured least available depth (LAD) for capacity augmentation of National Waterway (NW)-10 on operate, maintain and manage basis from November 28, 2023 to December 7, 2023**. Bids for the same were invited in September 2023. The scope of work includes maintenance dredging on NW-10 for maintaining an assured LAD of 5.5 metres and channel bottom width of 110 metres with side slope of 1:5. NW-10 (Amba River)- Amba river is a tidal river, which originates from Dharamtar creek to bridge near Nagothane ST stand with a total length of 45Km. It envisages movement of 8,000 tonnes/350 tonnes vessels.

❖ The **IWAI has also extended the RfP bid due date for undertaking maintenance dredging for assured LAD for capacity augmentation of NW-28 on operate, maintain and manage basis from November 28, 2023 to December 7, 2023**. Bids for the same were invited in September 2023. The scope of work includes maintenance dredging on NW-28 for maintaining a LAD of 5 m and channel bottom width of 100 metres with side slope of 1:5. NW-28 (Dabhol Creek/Vashishti River)- Vashishti River (Dabhol Creek) is one of the waterways declared as NW 28 in March, 2016. The NW 28 has a 2.0 metres depth up to 35 kms out of 45.228 kms.