

## Ports

❖ **Bharat Mumbai Container Terminals (BMCT) Private Limited**, a subsidiary of **PSA International**, received its first batch of three superpost Panamax quay cranes on **June 30, 2017**. BMCT's first cranes are twin-lift capable with a capacity of 65 tonnes under the spreader and have an outreach of 63 metres (m), making them capable of handling mega container vessels, which are 22 containers wide. The cranes were manufactured by Doosan Heavy Industries in Vietnam. A second batch of three quay cranes will be delivered in September 2017, with six more quay cranes planned to be delivered during 2018 and 2019. BMCT will also be receiving 18 rubber-tyred gantry cranes during 2017 to provide efficient yard operations, while the four rail-mounted gantry cranes arriving in September 2017 will be able to handle multiple 1.5 km long double stack dedicated freight corridor trains.

❖ **The foundation stone** for the **Kandla smart industrial port city project (SIPC)** is likely to be laid by **August 2017**. The project is currently awaiting clearances from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and Public Investment Board, which are expected to be obtained by July 2017. Reportedly, the Kandla Port Trust (KPT) is expected to finalise the contract for land auctions after receiving approvals. Besides, contracts for works worth Rs 2 billion, including grading of land, land filling, drainage, road, electricity and water supply, are likely to be awarded by July 2017. The Kandla SIPC project requires a total of 1,490 acres of land, of which, 930 acres lies in Kandla, while 560 acres lies in Gandhidham. The project is expected to entail an investment of Rs 40 billion.

❖ The **Mumbai Port Trust** has invited bids for **maintenance dredging** in the **approach channels, turning circles, outside berths, Indira dock basin, bunder areas and anchorages** of the port on **assured depth basis** and to **required depths**, for **three years starting** from **2017-18**. The last date for the submission of bids is July 18, 2017. The above mentioned work is estimated to entail an investment of Rs 1,410.6 million.

❖ **KPT** has extended the request for **proposal bid due date** for **providing consultancy services as authority's engineer** for the **supervision of construction** of the **road-over-bridge (RoB) at Kutch salt junction**. The bid due date has been extended from June 28, 2017 to July 12, 2017. The bids for the same were issued in May 2017. The project involves construction of a 14.89 km long interchange-cum-RoB at level crossing LC-236 of Kutch salt junction on the National Highway-141 (Phase I). The project will be implemented on engineering, procurement and construction basis. It involves an investment of Rs 1,889.9 million. The feasibility report for the project was prepared by K & J Projects Private Limited. The National Highways Authority of India is expected to look after all the technical aspects related to planning and designing of the project.

❖ The **Puducherry port**, being developed as a **satellite port** for the **Chennai Port Trust**, is expected to be **commissioned** by **August 2017**. Presently, works on the project are progressing at a fast pace and the construction of container and cargo berths stands completed. Initially, the port is expected to handle 0.3 million tonnes per annum (mtpa) of cargo. The capacity will later be expanded up to 1 mtpa. The scope of work involves dredging up to 0.38 million cubic metres of sand and depositing the dredged material behind the Gandhi statue, restoring the beaches in front of town and construction of two berths - each for container and cargo handling - with quay length of 150 m and width of 25 m.

❖ **A. S. Shipping Agencies Private Limited (ASSA), Greenways Group**, has laid the **foundation stone** for the **inland container depot (ICD)** at **Surareddypalem** (near Ongole) in **Andhra Pradesh**. The upcoming ICD is strategically located to serve the trade in the Nellore-Guntur belt, for handling commodities such as granite, tobacco, chillies, seafood, etc. originating in the area and is expected to provide substantial cost saving to customers. Besides, ASSA ICD is well positioned to provide the right balance of trade and equipment as it is situated between the Krishnapatnam port and Guntur, and in close proximity to cargo production and consumption centres. It would be having state-of-the-art facilities, including large container storage yard, export-import warehouses with capacity of 50,000 square feet. Phase I of the ICD will be developed on 10

acres of land at an investment of Rs 1 billion. The facility will have an estimated capacity to handle 200,000 twentyfoot equivalent units annually. Reportedly, Phase I of the ICD is expected to be functional by October 2017.

## Shipping

❖ The **Union Government** is **expected to announce the cruise tourism policy by July 2017**, after **securing Union Cabinet approval**. The draft plan for the same has already been prepared. The action plan, which will be finalised in the next three months, will include key steps such as parity with international standards, simplification of procedures, easy immigration and ways to make India a global hotspot. Initially, five major ports namely Mumbai, Goa, New Mangalore, Chennai, and Cochin, will be developed as cruise tourism hubs. To begin with, some initiatives in this direction have already been undertaken. These include a 30 per cent rebate on all cruise vessel-related charges and a rise in the number of days a cruise ship can dock, from one to three days. Also, until February 5, 2024, foreign flag vessels carrying passengers have been allowed to call at the Indian ports without securing a license from the Directorate General of Shipping.

❖ **MoEFCC** has **granted environmental clearance** for the **ship repair facility project in Willingdon Island** (Cochin Shipyard Limited [CSL]). The project involves setting up of an international ship repair facility with an investment of Rs 9.7 billion. In this regard, CSL and Cochin Port Trust (CPT) have entered into a contract, whereby 42 acres of land will be leased by CPT to CSL for the project. CSL will be using the facility for the repairs of small ships up to 130 m in size, so that the existing ship repair facility in CSL can be dedicated to value added repairs of larger ships. The project requires a total of 32 hectares (17 hectares of land and 15 hectares of waterfront area). It is scheduled to be completed by August 2019.

❖ The **Shipping Corporation of India (SCI)** has **announced its *INDFEX-3 service***, the **newly restructured service** between **China and West India**. It has the following port rotation - Xingang, Qingdao, Ningbo, Singapore, Port Klang (W), Nhava Sheva (Gateway Terminals India), Mundra, Hazira, Colombo, Port Klang (W), Singapore and Xingang. SCI is one of the partners in this service.

## Inland Water Transport

❖ The **Kerala government** has **accorded sanction** for the **formation of a public limited company as special purpose vehicle (SPV) for facilitating timely development of the 225 km stretch of the Kerala inland water transport project** (National Waterway [NW]-3). As per the sanction, the SPV will be formed as a joint venture (JV) between the Government of Kerala (GoK) and Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) with 49 per cent equity each and remaining 2 per cent with other agencies. GoK's commitment will be limited to land acquisition and contribution to 49 per cent equity in SPV alone. The SPV will be responsible for the supervision of land acquisition process, undertaking social and environmental impact assessments as required, all construction and developments including widening of canals, construction of new canals among others. It will also be responsible for the preparation of a comprehensive detailed project report (DPR). The DPR will be prepared as a mixed module from different stretches so that different funding agencies can be approached. Besides, the sanction was also accorded for the necessary waterfront development activities, to enhance economic activity along the waterways and for the development of proposed West Coast Canal from Kovalam to Kollam in south and from Kozhikode to Neeleswaram to north of the existing NW-3 to the NW standards.

❖ The **Inland Waterways Authority of India** **signed a contract with ITD Cementation India Limited for constructing a multi-modal terminal at Haldia on June 30, 2017**. The contract value is Rs 5.17 billion. The terminal is expected to handle 3.18 mtpa. The terminal will be used to transport coal, fly ash, chemicals, petroleum and gas, construction materials, fertilizers and edible items. The terminal will be located at Hooghly river in Haldia Industrial Complex area. It is being developed as a part of the NW-1 (Allahabad-Haldia) under the Jal Marg Vikas project. Construction work on the terminal is scheduled to be completed in 30 months upon commencement.