



Guiding Spirit to Shipping Industry

# Sagar Sandesh

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PM Modi flags off Secunderabad-Tirupati Vande Bharat Express

## Grand Finale function of Diamond Jubilee of National Maritime Day organized at Domestic Cruise Terminus

The Grand Finale function of Diamond Jubilee of National Maritime Day was organized by National Maritime Day Celebration (Central) Committee "NMDC" at Domestic Cruise Terminus, Mumbai on 5th April 2023, with 'Amrit Kaal in shipping' as its theme. The day is celebrated to commemorate the embarkation of the first Indian-owned vessel "S S Loyalty" on her maiden voyage from Mumbai to London, on this day in 1919. Eminent maritime personalities from India and abroad and seafarers and their families participated in the colorful event held in Mumbai.



Mr. Atul Ubale Chairman NMDC

Sonowal was read, he said he is very pleased to learn that the theme adopted for the 60th edition of the National Maritime Day 2023 celebrations is Amrit Kaal in Shipping. This theme refers to the most auspicious period to start new ventures which also holds true for shipping, said the Minister.



Shri Shantanu Thakur-The Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways

The Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Shri Shantanu Thakur congratulated all stakeholders of the maritime fraternity on the occasion. He mentioned that the vision of the Government for Amrit Kaal is the creation of opportunities for citizens with a focus on youth, growth and job creation, and a strong and stable macroeconomic environment. He underlined the

strong need to promote coastal shipping as an energy-efficient and low-cost mode of transport, both for passengers and freight. This should be done through PPP mode, with viability gap funding, said the Minister.

The Minister for Infrastructure and Water Management,

Netherlands, extended his greetings and best wishes to the seafarers and Indian maritime fraternity. He said that India is a key maritime player, like the Netherlands.

The Netherlands Minister spoke about the recently signed MoU between India and the Netherlands and how it will help deepen the maritime cooperation between the two countries. "Over the last few days, India and Netherlands discussed

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Chief Guest Mark Harbers-Minister for Infrastructure and Water Management, Kingdom of the Netherlands

The Chief Guest for the function was Minister for Infrastructure and Water Management, Kingdom of the Netherlands Mark Harbers, and the event was presided over by Union Minister of State for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways, Shantanu Thakur.

Mr. Atul Ubale Chairman NMDC Committee welcomed all the esteemed guests. Thereafter the written message of the Union Shipping Minister Sarbananda



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## Grand Finale function of Diamond Jubilee ..... From Page : 1

collaboration along various fronts, including in zero-emission shipping, inland waterways technology for improving sustainable waterborne transport. You can't help but be inspired with the eagerness of Indian and Dutch companies to join forces and navigate a shared sustainable maritime future. We are on the brink of a new dawn. The Netherlands is proud to be here as India's partner on this day, let us chart a sustainable maritime future. Recently, the Union Shipping Minister of India and I signed a MoU on cooperation in maritime sector. This will serve as a blueprint for our vision for deepening our existing strong ties in the sector. By working together, we can respond to many challenges facing us today, such as extreme weather due to climate change, the need for smart transport solutions in dense urban areas and the quest to make our energy systems more sustainable."



Shri Rajiv Jalota-Director General of Shipping

**Director General of Shipping, Rajiv Jalota** reminded all stakeholders of the past glory and dominance of India in shipping and seaborne trade. "Documented proofs of maritime trade are found in Indus Valley civilization and in the excavation of our tidal dockyard at Lothal, Gujarat which dates back to 2500 B.C. The concept of maritime insurance and administrative setup related to merchant marines are found in Chanakya's Arthashastra. During Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj's regime in Maharashtra, the importance of maritime

dominance was acknowledged and strengthened."

(History reminds us Chola dynasty and V. O. Chidambaram Pillai. Cholas at the end of the 9th century excelled in foreign trade and maritime activities, extending their influence overseas to China and South Asia and Shri V. O. Chidambaram launched the first indigenous Indian Shipping service between India and Colombo in 1906.)

The Director General mentioned that the government has a vision to make the Amrit Kaal as a pioneering period in the development of the country. He stressed that this is the time the shipping industry needs to gear up for the next generation by use of technology to connect all elements of shipping at one place.

**During this program, the following Sagar Samman Awards were conferred upon meritorious persons, and 14 maritime organizations were recognized for their outstanding performance in different fields, details as below:**



Capt. Thanuvelil Koshy Joseph awarded Sagar Samman Varuna Award



Sagar Samman Varuna Award - Capt. Thanuvelil Koshy Joseph received by his daughter

### 1. Sagar Samman Varuna Award - Capt. Thanuvelil Koshy Joseph

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# Grand Finale function of Diamond Jubilee ..... From Page : 2



Mr. Indra Nath Bose awarded Sagar Samman Award For Excellence



Sagar Samman Award For Excellence - Mr Indra Nath Bose received by his Sister & Brotherinlaw

## 2. Sagar Samman Award For Excellence - Mr Indra Nath



Capt. Anil Choudhary awarded Sagar Samman Award For Gallantry



Sagar Samman Award For Gallantry - Capt. Anil Choudhary received by his wife

## 3. Sagar Samman Award For Gallantry - Capt. Anil Choudhary

## 4. Recognition For Outstanding Maritime Training Institutes

### (a) In the Category of - Pre-sea training institutes conducting courses for Officer Cadets (Nautical & Engineering).

|          |                                                                                                     |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st Rank | Anglo Eastern Maritime Academy (A Division of Anglo Eastern Institute), Karjat, Raigad, Maharashtra |
| 2nd Rank | Tolani Maritime Institute, Talegaon, Pune, Maharashtra                                              |
| 3rd Rank | The Great Eastern Institutes of Marine Studies, Lonavla, District Pune, Maharashtra                 |



Outstanding Maritime Training Institutes Pre sea Trg (1st Rank)- Anglo Eastern Maritime Academy Capt Sule receiving award



Outstanding Maritime Training Institutes Pre sea Trg (2nd Rank)- TMI



Outstanding Maritime Training Institutes pre sea trg(3rd Rank)- Great Eastern Institute- Capt Birwadkar receiving award

### (b) In the Category of Post-sea training institutes conducting Competency Courses

|          |                                                                   |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st Rank | Hindustan Institute of Marine Training (HIMT), Kilpauk, Tamilnadu |
| 2nd Rank | Mumbai Maritime Training Institute, Mumbai                        |
| 3rd Rank | MASSA Maritime Academy, Navi Mumbai                               |



Outstanding Maritime Training Inst Post-sea training conducting Competency courses 1st Rank- HIMIT Mr & Mrs Vakil receiving award



Outstanding Maritime Training Institutes- Post sea Trg conducting Com Courses( 2nd rank) - MMTI Capt Dubey receiving Award



Outstanding Maritime Training Inst Post-sea Trg conducting Competency Courses (3rd Rank)- MASSA Mumbai Capt Mainkar receiving award

## 5. Recognition of outstanding Indian Ship-owning Companies:

|          |                                       |
|----------|---------------------------------------|
| 1st Rank | The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd |
| 2nd Rank | Seros Shipping Company                |

## 6. Recognition of outstanding Indian Employers of Seafarers:

|          |                                       |
|----------|---------------------------------------|
| 1st Rank | The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd |
|----------|---------------------------------------|



Outstanding Indian Ship-owning & also Indian Employers for seafarers- SCI

## 7. Recognition of outstanding Foreign Employers of Indian Seafarers

### (a) In the Category of - Shipboard berth between 1 to 500

|          |                                         |
|----------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1st Rank | OSM Fleet Management (India) Pvt. Ltd., |
| 2nd Rank | ELITE Maritime Pvt Ltd.                 |



Outstanding Foreign Employers of Indian Seafarers (1-500) 2nd rank- Elite Marine Capt Paintal & Capt Pradhan receiving award

### (b) In the Category of - Shipboard berth above 1000.

|          |                                                              |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1st Rank | Anglo Eastern Ship Management Pvt Ltd.                       |
| 2nd Rank | MSC Crewing Services Pvt. Ltd                                |
| 3rd Rank | Maersk Fleet Management and Technology India Private Limited |

# Grand Finale function of Diamond Jubilee ..... From Page : 3



Outstanding Foreign Employers of Indian Seafarers Abv 1000 (1st Rank)- Anglo-Eastern. Capt Ravi Anand & Mr Vineet Gupta receiving award



Outstanding Foreign Employers of Indian Seafarers Abv 1000 (2nd Rank)- MSC. Capt Bhasin & Capt. Aniket receiving award



This event was witnessed by the special invitees of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management and delegates from Kingdom of the Netherlands, delegates from Royal Danish Embassy, officers and staff of

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, DG Shipping, SCI, IRS, Ports and all other departments of Government of India and state governments. The representatives of the Shipping Companies, Maritime Training Institutes, RPSL, MTOs Unions in Maritime

field from India and abroad and Sagar Samman award winners and their families were also present in large numbers.

**Dr. Raut Pandurang, Deputy Director General of Shipping and Member Secretary, NMCDC (Central) Committee** delivered the vote of thanks.

## New gas pricing formula: Short-term pain, long-term gain for ONGC and OIL

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Last year, the Kirit Parikh-led panel submitted its report to the government on rationalisation of gas prices from old fields, NELP and

pre-NELP blocks, with a formula-based pricing approach.

**According to the new formula, the price of locally produced gas will be fixed at 10 per**

## MARINE-OIL & GAS

cent of the trailing one month's crude basket price for India. For APM gas (administered pricing mechanism gas) by ONGC and Oil India, a floor price of \$4/mmbtu and ceiling price of \$6.5/mmbtu have been fixed. APM gas price is currently at \$8.57 per mmbtu and the current crude basket price for India is around \$85 a barrel.

**The new pricing guidelines will be effective from April 08, 2023.** Notably, the current prices are higher than the ceiling price. The floor and ceiling prices will be revised by 25 cents every two years.

For gas from other new fields, the price has been fixed at a 20 per cent premium over the APM gas price.

After a record performance of gas divisions in Q3 FY23, **the overall profitability of ONGC and Oil India is expected to moderate over the short-term due to a downward revision in the APM gas prices under the new gas pricing regime.**



The new pricing guidelines will be effective , April 08, 2023

For instance, Oil India's gas segment posted an operating profit of ₹1,091 crore (on a revenue of ₹1,660 crore) in the October-December 2022 period. This is a whopping 65 per cent margin for the company, compared with a loss of ₹107 crore (on a revenue of ₹514 crore) for the October-December 2021 period. This is thanks to the high gas realisation of \$8.6 per mmbtu in Q3 FY23 against \$2.9 per mmbtu in Q3 FY22.

We expect that the floor price of \$4 per mmbtu will ensure the stability of the gas segments of both ONGC and OIL India, benefitting them over the long-term. This could be a reason why stocks of ONGC and Oil India are up 2-3 per cent in trading today.

After a steep rise in Q3 FY23, profitability of city gas distribution companies (CGD companies) can see a bump up in the current quarter as the APM gas prices moderate.

However, with the revision in the pricing formula, **CGD companies will be able to fork out a long-term pricing strategy to ensure that they are profitable despite a rise in the prices of crude oil.** Otherwise, they have to improve volumes by purchasing higher priced gas from new wells.

With crude prices hitting new benchmark, **the new gas pricing norms will stabilise the prices of gas, at least for domestic gas,** and will be positive for gas users such as fertilisers as it will help prune their working capital needs.



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## MARINE NEWS



"Failure is a lesson learned; success is a lesson applied."

## India transfers its Naval vessel to Maldives

VISAKHAPATNAM  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Indian Navy is transferring its attack craft INS Tarmugli to the neighboring Indian Ocean island of Maldives in consonance with India's vision of Sagar and towards consolidating friendship with that country

To commemorate the culmination of the service of the ship in the Indian Navy, a sunset ceremony was held on April 8th, at Eastern Naval Command (ENC) of Visakhapatnam



INS Tarmugli

to bid farewell to INS Tarmugli. Vice Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Eastern Naval

Command was the chief guest.

**INS Tarmugli will be handed over to the**

**Maldives in the presence of the defense minister Rajnath Singh and re-commissioned as MCGS Huravee in the early May 2023.**

INS Tarmugli was commissioned on May 23 in 2016 and based at Visakhapatnam under the Naval Officer-in-Charge (Andhra Pradesh) under ENC and was deployed for coastal patrol and surveillance operations along the East Coast.

**Built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd of Kolkata, INS Tarmugli**

is the first follow-on water jet fast attack craft (WJFAC), is an improved version of WJFAC, conceived, designed, and built indigenously, the commissioning of this ship completes the addition of another chapter to the nation's 'Make in India' initiative and indigenization efforts in the field of warship design and construction.

The ship is capable of operating in shallow waters at high speeds, is equipped with enhanced firepower, and is built for extended coastal and also for offshore surveillance and patrol.

## India South Korea committed to peaceful Indo Pacific

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

India and South Korea are both committed to a free open peaceful and prosperous Indo Pacific region.

South Korean foreign minister Park Jin who is on an official visit to India highlighted the commonalities between the two sides and their commitment to the Indo-Pacific. "We are both exemplary democracies, vibrant economies and cultural powers and we are both committed to contributing to a free,



South Korean foreign minister Park Jin

open, peaceful and prosperous Indo-Pacific region," he said

Park described India as an "essential partner" in South Korea's strategy for the Indo-Pacific. "India is

a very important country in our Indo-Pacific strategy. Korea wants to play its role and responsibility to contribute to freedom, peace and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond. In that sense, India is our essential partner," he said.

Common challenges such as supply chain disruptions, global technological competition, the Covid-19 pandemic, climate crisis and the Ukraine war cannot be addressed by any country on its own and there is a need for cooperation among nations that share core

values such as democracy and rule of law, he said.

**Key areas where India and South Korea can work together include supply chain stabilization, manufacturing, artificial intelligence, big data and space, he added.**

India and South Korea have also expanded their relationship to cover the economic development cooperation fund, under which both sides are implementing projects, external affairs minister S Jaishankar said.

Both the countries discussed ways to take forward the strategic

partnership between the two countries and the situation in the Indo-Pacific region.

Mr Jaishankar said their discussions focused on strategic issues in the economic and political sphere and people-to-people ties. The visit will also be an opportunity to take forward the special strategic partnership between the two sides, he said.

The South Korean minister will travel to Chennai on April 9th, where several key South Korean companies have extensive operations. While in the southern city, he will visit a plant of automobile major Hyundai.

## Andhra Pradesh Govt bans fishing in its waters for 2 months

VISAKHAPATNAM  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

**Andhra Pradesh government has announced a ban on deep-sea fishing in the territorial waters of the state from April 15 to June 14.**

The Department of Fisheries issued orders under Section 4 of the AP

Marine Fishing Regulation Act, 1994. It also stated that all mechanized and motorized fishing vessels should not go fishing in the territorial waters during this time.

"The main goal of the order is to follow conservation measures during the prime time for most fish and prawn species to reproduce. As in

past years, all fishermen are urged to seriously follow the Marine fishing restriction," the Department of Fisheries said in a statement.

According to the AP Marine Fishing Regulation Act of 1994, any fisherman or boat owner who flouts the orders will face a severe penalty, as well as the boat that is caught will be seized.

**Despite the penalty, there will be a stoppage of government benefits like gasoline subsidies and others.**



The Department of Fisheries, in coordination with the Coast Guard, Coastal Security Police,

Navy, and revenue officers, would patrol the sea to ensure there is no violation of the law.



## MoPSW to exceed 4-yr asset monetization target

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The Union Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is set to widely surpass its four-year asset monetization target of ₹12,828 crore ahead of the deadline thanks to robust awarding of projects under the public-private partnership (PPP) model.

**In an interview, Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal said the aim is to raise ₹6,760 crore this fiscal year through the development of berths and terminals at major ports under the PPP initiative.**

He said 20 projects worth close to ₹7,000 crore would be put on the block for monetization this fiscal. This would help the ministry exceed the monetization target set for the sector under the National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP) of ₹6 trillion finalized by the finance ministry in 2021, he added.

Most of the current year's monetization would involve developing a new berth at the Deendayal Port (Kandla, Gujarat), setting up a container terminal at Haldia Dock Complex of Shyama Prasad Mookerjee Port (Kolkata, West Bengal), and plan for a dry dock in Vadinar (Gujarat).

In the first two years of monetization (FY22 and FY23), the ministry of ports had monetized ₹10,519 crore of assets, involving a dozen projects, as against a target of ₹4,936 crore. This was more than two times the target for the two-year period.

Sonowal noted the strong performance of his ministry in terms of asset monetization in the past two fiscal years.

In FY23, about 24 projects valued at ₹700 crore were monetized by the government by December. The latest report shows that assets worth ₹9,544 crore were monetized under nine projects awarded under the PPP mode last fiscal.

The ministry has a pipeline of 81 projects totalling more than ₹42,400 crore, to be awarded on PPP mode till FY25 even though the target under the NMP is just over ₹12,000 crore.

The primary model for monetization of ports and shipping assets is through grant of PPP concessions.

Shipping has been among the few departments along with coal and mines ministries, which have exceeded their monetization targets last fiscal. For FY23, the Centre had set a target of ₹1.62 trillion, and till FY25, the government seeks to monetize assets worth ₹6 trillion under the NMP.



Shipping Minister Sonowal

In FY22, transactions worth ₹96,000 crore under the NMP were completed, largely backed by shipping, coal and mining assets, exceeding the target of ₹88,000 crore.

### TERMINAL NEWS

## GTI welcomed Dutch delegation



GTI welcomes Dutch delegation at the terminal

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Gateway Terminals India Pvt. Ltd (GTI) welcomed the Dutch delegation comprising Mr. Mark Harbers, Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management, The Netherlands & trade mission leader and other delegates at the terminal on 5th April 2023.

The delegates were welcomed by

GTI senior management team at the terminal, according to a release.

They were briefed about the ongoing infrastructure and equipment upgrade project "Fit for Future" and the plans to reduce carbon emissions at the terminal.

The delegation was impressed by GTI's safety culture and lean practices focusing on improving operational efficiency and customer experience, the release added.

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# CONTAINER TERMINAL NEWS



“Worrying will never change the outcome”

## Liner service linking Cochin port with Gulf

COCHIN  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

DP World, a leading global provider of smart end-to-end logistics, welcomed the newly launched weekly Malabar service at its state-of-the-art International Container Transshipment Terminal (ICTT) last week. The new service is operated by Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) and will have 4 vessels of 2,400 TEU capacity.



Cochin port

vessel, M.V. MSC Krittika, reached DP World’s terminal in Cochin on April 6. The new service will provide direct and seamless connectivity between Cochin, Mundra, Karachi, Jebel Ali, Abu Dhabi, Kuwait (with Shuwaikh Port), Qatar (with Hamad Port) and Sri Lanka (Colombo). This will create a faster, stable and reliable service for the traders across the India-Middle East corridor and leverage the strong partnerships between the two regions for boosting economic growth, said a release.

Commenting on the new service, Mr Praveen Joseph, CEO,

DP World Cochin, said, “We are committed to expanding trade routes through more direct services and are focused on continuously improving our operations to serve our customers better.”

The Malabar service will be the 3rd weekly service sailing for the Middle East region from DP World Cochin. The port terminal is capable of handling post Panamax ships and, in February 2023, the 605-metre-long terminal reached a monumental milestone of successfully handling 6 million TEUs since its inception in 2011, the release added.

## IMU-Kolkata Campus, erstwhile DMET-MERI, hosted a magnificent Passing Out and Prize Distribution Ceremony

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

The Indian Maritime University - Kolkata Campus, erstwhile DMET-MERI, recently hosted a magnificent Passing Out and Prize Distribution Ceremony for the esteemed Batch of 2019, held on 8th April 2023 at 1100 hours. The event was an astounding culmination of the academic journey of 227 cadets, who embarked on their journey of excellence when they joined the institution in August 2019.

The ceremony began with the lighting of the lamp by the Union Minister Shri Shanthanu



IMU-Kolkata hosting Passing out, Prize Distribution ceremony with State Minister of Ports Thakur as the chief guest

Thakur, (Minister of State) Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, who was Chief Guest of the ceremony. He was accompanied by Smt. Soma Thakur. It was an ethereal moment that radiated spiritual

significance, as the flame illuminated the aspirations and dreams of the young cadets. This was followed by the Presidential Address by the esteemed Registrar, K. Saravanan. The address was a masterful rendition of words that inspired

## MARITIME INSTITUTION NEWS

the cadets to pursue their dreams with unwavering determination.

On the occasion Shri Shantanu Thakur, (Minister of State) Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways, said “I take this opportunity to tell you about importance of Maritime Education in India & valuable contributions made by Indian Maritime University, Kolkata. In fact, Maritime Education & Research are important major points in Maritime India Vision -2030 of the Govt. of India. We now have world-class Institutions offering a range of programs in various aspects of Industry, from Marine Engineering to Navigation to Maritime

Law. These Institutions provide the knowledge, skills, and expertise that our young people need to build successful careers. Maritime India Vision 2030 has set a target of greater than 20% of world seafarers to be from India. The current world dynamics are favouring India in all fronts, thanks to the leadership of Hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji, including the employment of seafarers.”

The event was graced by the presence of illustrious dignitaries, including Cmdr. Sameer Chaudhary, Shri SK Sarkar, and Shri B. N Bera, who added a distinguished aura to the occasion.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

(To Read Full News Please go to [www.sagarsandesh.in](http://www.sagarsandesh.in))

#### Status of Delhi Dehra Dun Expressway



The Six-lane bridge, constructed at the cost of Rs12, 000 crore will reduce the distance between Delhi .....

#### EV sales growth to offer \$4-b opportunity for Indian component manufacturers, say automobile stakeholders



The growth in sales of electric vehicles (EVs) will bolster a rapidly expanding .....

#### Draft ‘Sagarmala Innovation and Start-up Policy’ issued for Stakeholder Consultation



A nation’s growth is augmented by start-ups and entrepreneurs. In order to build a strong innovation ecosystem, .....

#### India’s crude oil imports from Russia now double of traditional top supplier Iraq



India now imports twice as much crude oil from Russia as it does from Iraq, the country’s .....

#### Industries planned near Vizhinjam Port



With the latest deadline for the first ship to dock at the proposed Vizhinjam port set at December this year, the adjoining Kattkkada assembly constituency.....

## PORTS (REGIONAL/INTERNATIONAL)

"News is what somebody somewhere wants to suppress; all the rest is advertising." - Lord Northcliffe

# Puducherry Govt toying with new concession agreement for Karaikal port

PUDUCHERRY  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

The Puducherry government is considering a proposal to rework the 2006 concession agreement the government had entered into with Marg the previous developer and the private operator in the light of change ownership the process which was set in motion last year.

**Adani Ports and Special economic Zone is all set to take over the port provided the takeover is not challenged in a court of law.**

The state Chief Minister Rengaswamy is understood to have asked the Chief Secretary to explore the scope for reworking the concession agreement we had with Marg in 2006," according to media reports. The 2006 Memorandum



Chief Minister Rengaswamy

when the Port was commissioned had leased around six hundred acres of government land to develop the Karaikal Port on a revenue sharing basis. The concept has since become outmoded in the port industry. The land was transferred for an initial period of 30 years with scope for extension.

**As per the agreement, the developer was mandated to pay 2.6 per cent of Gross Revenue**

**as concession fee in four equal instalments based on annual revenue projection to the government.** Any surplus or shortage should be adjusted with the instalments for the subsequent year and for the last year of the concession period within three months of the end date, the agreement said. The agreement had also fixed a lease charge on an annual lease basis at the rate of 2 per cent per annum of the fair market value of the land, which as on the date of their land acquisition in 2006,

The developer had taken a loan to the tune of round three thousand crore from various creditors, which it was unable to repay. Last year, the Division Bench of National Company Law Tribunal in Chennai had admitted the Karaikal port

for insolvency proceedings based on an application filed by the financial creditor, Omkara Assets Reconstruction Private Limited. The Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone had participated in the Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process. The NCLT in its March 31 order last year had approved Adani's bid to pay around Rs One thousand Five hundred crore to the financial creditors as upfront infusion amount.

After the agreement was signed, the then government had come in for severe criticism for fixing a low lease charge and revenue sharing pact.... The agreement itself was full of loopholes and the people of the Union Territory did not benefit from it. The dmk is planning to agitate against the takeover of the port

by the adanis on a political plane

Former Member of Parliament and economist M. Ramadass opined that **after the transfer of ownership the old agreement has become irrelevant.** "A new agreement with the new owner has to be in place to confer mutual advantages to both the parties. Since the port started operations, it has added new cargo flows. **The new owner has unveiled the plan to double the capacity of the port in the next five years and also add a container terminal.** They also plan to invest Rs 850 crore to upgrade the infrastructure. The rail connectivity given in post agreement period has enhanced the utility of the port. The industrial places of Tamil Nadu has got strategic linkages. All this calls for a new agreement the former PMK Mp has contended.

# JNPA remains leader in container business among public sector ports

MUMBAI  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

The Union Minister of State for Ports, Shantanu Thakur, visited Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), recently. He interacted with the Senior Management and toured JN Port, CPP & SEZ.

He was welcomed by Chairperson of the Port authority Sanjay Sethi, and Mr Unmesh Sharad Wagh, Dy Chairman, JNPA. He reviewed the performance of the JN Port.



The Union Minister of State for Ports, Shantanu Thakur, visited Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), recently

**JNPA - India's largest Container port, created the history recently when it registered its highest ever throughput of 6.05 MTEUs in 2022-23.** The

Port had crossed 6 MTEUs on March 30, 2023. During the corresponding period last year, JNPA handled 5.68 Million TEUs, which was also a record then. It accounts for an increase of 6.4% in the total throughput.

Currently JNPA operates 5 Container Terminals -- NSFT, NSICT, NSIGT, BMCT and APMT. The Port also has a Shallow Water Berth for general cargo and another Liquid Cargo Terminal which is managed by BPCL-IOCL consortium and the

newly-constructed coastal berth.500 vehicles into alternative fuel vehicles by 2025.

**The port is linked to the Delhi dedicated freight corridor which means cargo unloaded from the Ports terminal will reach the North Indian hinterland within ten hours at one fifth of the cost on road movement.**

The government is actively pushing for another Mega port near JNPA in an effort to double the turnover of containers from the Port region. The port will be built by the JNPA

# Probe to continue levy of anti dumping duty on flax yarn from China

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

The Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) has initiated a probe to review the need to continue the anti-dumping

duty on flax yarn imported from China, following complaints from the domestic industry.

Based on the duly substantiated application of the applicants and having satisfied itself on the basis

of the prima facie evidence submitted by the domestic industry, **the authority, hereby, initiates a sunset review investigation, the notification said.**

DGTR would review the need to continue

the duties and examine whether the **expiry of existing duties is likely to lead to the continuation or recurrence of dumping and impact the domestic industry.**

The existing duties are

## EXIM NEWS



Directorate General  
Of Trade Remedies  
Department Of Commerce  
New Delhi

set to expire on October 17, 2023, as per a report.



"News is what somebody somewhere wants to suppress; all the rest is advertising." - Lord Northcliffe

## EXIM TREND

# Nepal wants to reduce trade deficit with China

KATHMANDU  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Nepal has urged the Chinese government to give preferential treatment in trade to Nepali primary products like tea, coffee, herbal products, cooked buffalo meat and other agricultural products with a view to reduce the mounting trade deficit faced by the Himalayan country.

The proposal was made by Nepal's Foreign Secretary Paudyal when he met Sun Weidong, Chinese Vice Minister for foreign affairs in Beijing on April 8th.



Nepal's Foreign Secretary Paudyal

Foreign Secretary Paudyal appreciated the Chinese policy of non-interference and respect for Nepal's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence, an official statement issued by the Nepalese foreign ministry after the meeting said.

The Chinese side

agreed to encourage its investors to make the investment in mutually beneficial areas, "The two sides discussed promoting people-to-people contacts and cultural cooperation, increasing the number of scholarships to Nepali students and professionals, and capacity development of technical experts, among others," the statement said.

The Foreign Secretary of Nepal appreciated the Government of China for enlisting Nepal as one of the outbound destination countries for group tourism, the ministry said.

The meeting also

reviewed the progress of different infrastructure development projects under China's grant assistance as well as Chinese - contracted projects and agreed to expedite the implementation of the projects so as to complete them in time. However, the statement did not mention Beijing's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which could not take off even six years after the two countries signed the agreement.

The 15th meeting of the Bilateral Diplomatic Consultation Mechanism between the Foreign Ministries of Nepal and

China was held in Beijing. The two sides discussed existing bilateral ties and cooperation and deliberated on the ways to further expand and consolidate partnership in various areas such as economic cooperation, trade promotion, investment, tourism and connectivity among others.

Nepal Foreign Secretary Paudyal called on China's Foreign Minister Qin Gang and discussed matters relating to strengthening bilateral relations and cooperation. Mr. Paudyal is the first Nepali official to meet Qin, who was appointed as China's Foreign Minister in December last year.

# Haats on Tripura-Bangladesh Border yet to Be Reopened

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry, Anupriya Patel, said in a letter to former Tripura Chief Minister Biplab Kumar Deb that the functioning of the Border Haats at Kamlasagar in Sepahijala district and Srinagar in South Tripura district were suspended due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

"We are continuously raising the matter of reopening of Border Haats at Kamlasagar and Srinagar in the bilateral meetings with Bangladesh. We are hopeful of an early resolution of this matter," Patel said in her



India wants Border Haats to function

letter to Deb, currently a BJP Rajya Sabha member.

Deb, who resigned from the Chief Minister's post in May last year, had urged the Centre during a Special Mention in the Rajya Sabha in December 2022 to reopen the Border Haats along Tripura's border with Bangladesh.

The four Border Haats, two each in Tripura and Meghalaya, have remained closed since March 2020 after the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic and the consequent lockdowns, causing immense loss to the people living in the bordering villages.

The two Border Haats in Meghalaya — at Balat (East Khasi Hills district) and Kalaichar (South West Garo Hills district) — were reopened last year and both are functional once in a week now.

Officials of the Tripura Industries and Commerce Department said that the officials in Sepahijala and South Tripura district administrations had on a

number of occasions approached their Bangladesh counterparts to reopen the Border Haats as the Covid-19 induced situation has almost been tamed now.

**"Bangladesh officials said that the concerned ministries in Dhaka are yet to allow reopening of the markets," an official of the department told IANS.**

Jaipur-based think-tank CUTS International, which has done several studies on border trade, had also recommended to the Indian government to resume these border markets maintaining necessary precautions against Covid-19, as these markets boost the economy, cement ties between the people of the two countries and also check illegal trade.

# Gujarat Based Axita Cotton to Supply \$3.28 Million Worth Of Cotton To Bangladesh

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

Mahesana (Gujarat)-based Axita Cotton, one of the leading raw cotton manufacturers and exporters has secured a major order worth US \$ 3.28 million (about Rs. 26.92 crore) from Bangladesh for the supply of raw cotton.

The order comprises shipments of raw cotton over the next three months. A well-known



Cotton

Bangladeshi textile company that is renowned for its dedication to quality and on-time delivery made the order.

The company informed that this huge order is in addition to the existing orders from Bangladesh. It also produces cotton

bales and cotton seeds. The company already supplies materials to several European and Eastern markets including China and Vietnam.

Kushal Nitinbhai Patel, MD of the company said that the focus on innovation and sustainability has helped the company to maintain its position as a leading raw cotton manufacturer and exporter.

He further added that this is a significant milestone for the company and it is also expecting some more orders of Yarn from the European and Far East market.

The company is involved in the manufacture and trade of cotton seed, cotton seed oil, cotton cake, etc. Cotton is among the top three items among other products that India exported to Bangladesh in FY22.

## EXIM TREND



"News is what somebody somewhere wants to suppress; all the rest is advertising." - Lord Northcliffe

## Electronic seal Mandatory for transiting goods from India to B'desh

DHAKA  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

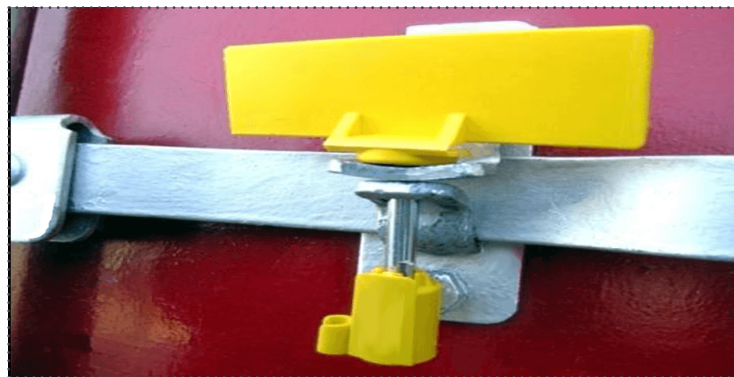
**B**angladesh government is all set to make use of electronic seal and lock mandatory for the transit and transshipment of goods from India, in a bid to ensure foolproof security during movement of cargo between the two countries.

Bangladesh government

can charge fees for transit goods shipment as per the electronic sea and lock service rule 2018 enacted by Bangladesh government.

**Currently, the rule is optional for all businesses but it might be made mandatory for transit goods movement.**

The Customs could not



Electronic seal and lock to be mandatory for goods transit from India to B'desh

implement the rules for four pilot shipments of transit goods from India as the government could not appoint any electronic lock and seal supplying company as per the NBR statutory regulatory order (SRO) in this regard.

**Customs officials said that the use of electronic seals and locks would be able to minimize the risk in transit goods movement according to media reports.**

## Assam to Export Methanol to Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

**I**n the last two or three years, our first big investment was in NRL. We increased the stake to 26 percent in NRL. The next investment is APL," the Chief Minister said.

**"The third big investment is the city gas linking project. The cabinet will clear the project," he said. "Our fourth big investment will be a 4,000 MW solar power project," he also said.**

"From the Namrup plant, methanol will be exported to various states and

several other neighbouring countries. In this project, Assam government has 51 per cent and OIL has 49 per cent investment," he said.

From mid-April, the state will start exporting methanol to Bangladesh, Bhutan and Nepal. Prime Minister Modi will inaugurate the methanol plant of the state-run APL at Namrup in Upper Assam's Dibrugarh district on April 14.

**"The quantity of methanol to be exported can be ascertained only after signing the agreement. However,**

we are getting adequate requisition from Bangladesh for methanol," said Rajnish Gogoi, managing director, APL.

**The APL, the first company in the country to set up a methanol plant** using natural Gas as feedstock, is an Assam government undertaking with 51% shares of the company held by the Assam government and 49% of shares held by Oil India Limited (OIL), incorporated in April 1971.

At present, 100 TPD methanol and 125 TPD formalin plants located at Namrup are fully functional under the company.

**"The process of export of methanol would start via Dawki in Meghalaya to Sylleth district of**



First big investment in NRL; APL first company to have a methanol plant

**Bangladesh by road. Later we will use water transport to send the consignments to Bangladesh," Deka further said.**

Initially, the officials agreed to have a G2G (government to government) intervention

for the certification of chemical products by an accredited laboratory acceptable to both countries.

They also agreed to set up a lab testing facility for streamlining the chemical export process between the two countries in due course of time.

## Robust domestic demand boosts Tata Steel, JSW Steel output

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

**S**teel companies, led by JSW Steel and Tata Steel, have announced a record production in the March quarter despite volatile domestic demand amid global uncertainty.

**Tata Steel has reported that its consolidated production jumped marginally at 7.59 million tonnes (7.55 mt), largely due to the slowdown in its global**

operations. The output in India increased 5 per cent to 5.15 mt (4.90 mt). Consolidated sales volume of Tata Steel were down 3 per cent in Q4 FY23 at 7.59 mt (7.86 mt), largely due to flattish growth in Europe and Thailand. In India, its sales were up marginally 5.15 mt (5.12 mt).

In FY23, Tata Steel's consolidated output was flat at 30.45 mt (30.46 mt) and sales were down marginally at 28.2 mt (28.62 mt). However,



**Steel companies, led by JSW Steel and Tata Steel, have announced a record production in the March quarter despite volatile domestic demand amid global uncertainty. | Photo Credit: ALEXANDER MANZYUK**

in India, it achieved the highest-ever annual crude steel production of 19.9 mt (19.06 mt), with a

## LOGISTIC NEWS

growth of 4 per cent by debottlenecking across sites and ramping up Neelachal Ispat Nigam.

**Neelachal Ispat Nigam began operations in three months of the completion of acquisition and has steadily ramped up during the last two quarters.** Currently, the run rate of crude steel plus pig iron is around one million tonne on annualised basis. Tata Tiscon rebars are being made from NINL billets, said the company.

On the sales front,

Tata Steel consolidated deliveries in the FY23 were down marginally at 28.2 mt (28.62 mt) due to economic slowdown in global markets. In India it was up 3 per cent at 18.87 mt (18.27 mt).

Sajjan Jindal-led JSW Steel reported 13 per cent increase in Q4 production at 6.58 million tonnes (5.81 mt), while output in this fiscal was up 24 per cent at 24 mt (19 mt).

Similarly, its output in this fiscal increased 24 per cent at 24.15 mt (19.51 mt) and in India, it was up 25 per cent at 23.62 mt (18.96 mt). JSW Steel does not announce its sales volume.

# LOGISTICS (ROAD/RAIL/AVIATION)



A Smooth Sea Never Made a Skilled Sailor. - John George Hermanson

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

## PM Modi flags off Secunderabad-Tirupati Vande Bharat Express

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday 8 April flagged off the Secunderabad - Tirupati Vande Bharat Express train from Hyderabad.

PM Modi, who arrived in the city, flagged off the service from Secunderabad Railway station.

He boarded the stationary train at the railway station and interacted with school children.

**The train will reduce the travel time between Secunderabad in Telangana and Tirupati in neighbouring Andhra Pradesh, by almost three and half hours and will be particularly beneficial for pilgrims.**

On January 15, Modi

had virtually flagged off the Vande Bharat train service between Secunderabad and the port city of Visakhapatnam in AP, which was the first such service connecting the two Telugu-speaking states.

Telangana Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan, Railways Minister Ashwini



PM Modi flagging off Secunderabad-Tirupati Vande Bharat Express

Vaishnav, Union Minister Kishan Reddy were among those who were present for Culture and Tourism G

## Regional strategy on Rail Digital transformation in Trans Asian Rly planned

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

India strongly supported the proposed draft of a regional strategy on acceleration of rail digital transformation by the members of the Trans Asian Railway network and expressed its Railways willingness to support regional digitalization initiatives through the platform provided by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific ESCAP

India's position in this regard was conveyed by Ms Jaya Varma Sinha, Member, Operations and Business Development of Railway Board during the course of her address at the conference.

**The two-day Conference ended with a recommendation to adopt the regional strategy on accelerating rail digital transformation by the members of Trans-Asian Railway network.**

A High-Level Conference on Accelerating Rail Digital Transformation in Asia and Pacific region was held in New Delhi, India on April 5 and 6. The Conference was organized by United Nations Economic and



Trans-Asian Railway members set to finalize a regional strategy on accelerating rail digital transformation

Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) in collaboration with the Ministry of Railways.

The Conference was attended by the representatives of the Ministries of Transport/Railways of 18 countries and the representatives from railways-related organizations.

Addressing the Conference, the Chairman of Indian Railways Mr. Anil Kumar Lahoti lauded ESCAP on organizing the Conference on a very topical issue and inform the participants that Indian Railways is expanding its digital footprints on every aspect of rail transport and is ready to share its experience and expertise with the member of the Trans-Asian railway network and especially with those countries that are starting their rail digitalization journey.

**The Conference deliberated on ways and means to accelerate rail digital transformation in Asia and the Pacific to enhance competitiveness of rail transport to attract more freight and passenger to railway transport.**

On strengthening rail cyber-security, it advocates developing a regional framework for rail cyber-security for sharing of information, capacity building

and learning from experience. The strategy also aims to heighten engagement with private sector by encouraging countries to

supportive legal and regulatory framework that attracts private investments and expertise in rail digital applications.

### VESSEL SCHEDULES

For the benefits of our Readers the Schedules will be available in the form of a comprehensive map with a hyperlink to the web portals of Respective Ports and their Terminals.  
To know the details for any Port or Terminal, You are just required to log on to [www.porttoport.in](http://www.porttoport.in) and click the tool vessel position / Ports and terminal.



| WEST COAST |                                                    |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| AMCT       | - Adani Mundra Container Terminal                  |
| AICTPL     | - Adani International Container Terminal Pvt. Ltd. |
| MICT       | - Mundra International Container Terminal          |
| ACMTP      | - Adani CMA Mundra Terminal Pvt. Ltd.              |
| KICT       | - Kandla International Container Terminal          |
| NSICT      | - Nhavasheva International Container Terminal      |
| NSIGT      | - Nhavasheva International Gateway Terminal        |
| JNPCT      | - Jawaharlal Nehru Port Container Terminal         |
| GTI        | - Gateway Terminals India                          |
| BMCT       | - Bharat Mumbai Container Terminals                |
| ICTT       | - International Container Transshipment Terminal   |

| EAST COAST |                                                 |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| VCTPL      | - Visakha Container Terminal Pvt. Ltd.          |
| KPCT       | - Krishnapatnam Port Container Terminal         |
| CCT        | - Chennai Container Terminal Pvt. Ltd           |
| CITPL      | - PSA's Chennai International Terminals Pvt Ltd |
| KICT       | - Kattupalli International Container Terminal   |
| DBGT       | - Dakshin Bharat Gateway Terminal Pvt. Ltd.     |
| PSA SICAL  | - PSA SICAL Terminals Limited                   |

## LOGISTICS (ROAD/RAIL/AVIATION)

A Smooth Sea Never Made a Skilled Sailor. - John George Hermanson

### Delhi to Ajmere is the next Vande Bharat

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag off Rajasthan's first Vande Bharat Express train on April 12th April, via video conferencing.

The inaugural train will run between Jaipur and Delhi Cantt. railway station. The regular service of this Vande Bharat Express will start from April 13th and will

operate between Ajmer and Delhi Cantt. with stops at Jaipur, Alwar and Gurgaon.

The new Vande Bharat Express will cover the distance between Delhi Cantt. and Ajmer in 5 hours 15 minutes. The present fastest train in the same route, Shatabdi Express, takes 6 hours 15 minutes from Delhi Cantt. to Ajmer. Thus, the new Vande Bharat Express will be faster by 60



Vande Bharat Express

minutes as compared to the present fastest train running on the same route.

Ajmer-Delhi Cantt. Vande Bharat Express will be the world's first semi high speed passenger train on high rise overhead electric (OHE) territory. The train will improve connectivity of major tourist destinations in Rajasthan including Pushkar, Ajmer Sharif Dargah etc. Enhanced connectivity will also provide a boost to socio-economic development in the region.

### Northern Regional meet on Gati Shakti National Master Plan

NEW DELHI  
Sagar Sandesh News BUREAU

The fifth Regional meet will begin in Varanasi on April 11 for six States including Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Jharkhand, Bihar, Odisha and West Bengal in an effort to bring more vigor and build synergy with all the stakeholders of the Gati Shakti National Master plan, said a press statement from the Department for Industries and Internal Trade Promotion, Union Ministry of Commerce and Industries.

The focus of the workshop will be on demonstrating the adoption of Gati Shakti NMP, with special emphasis on maintaining data quality, presentations of projects by Ministries and States that are planned on Gati Shakti National Master Plan ensuring Multimodal connectivity to economic and industrial clusters, ensuring access to schools, primary health centers, besides creating an efficient logistics ecosystem in the country, said the press statement.

The upcoming workshop will also be structured into two themes - Gati Shakti NMP and National Logistics Policy, to be covered over the two-day program.

The first day of the workshop will focus on Gati Shakti NMP. It will feature discussions of central infrastructure, economic and social sector ministries/ departments with states and UTs, demonstration of best use cases by ministries, states and UTs on their planning of multimodal infrastructure projects using the principles of Gati Shakti and presentations on various focus areas and initiatives under Gati



Varanasi workshop in two themes: Gati Shakti NMP and National Logistics Policy,

Shakti. The objective will be to illustrate the benefits of PM Gati Shakti and learn from best practices.

The second day will focus on the National Logistics Policy (NLP), in which presentations will be made on the key features and focus areas

under the NLP and state logistics policy progress. In addition, a presentation will also be made on logistics ease across the different state (LEADS) survey, followed by thematic presentations on the possibilities of developing inland container depots (ICDs)/container freight station (CFS) to boost exports and boosting inland waterway connectivity.

The two-day regional workshop is expected to witness the participation of Senior Government officials from concerned Central Ministries / Departments, States/UTs, NITI Aayog and BISAG-N.

### Crucial Rail Projects to Connect Mining, Cement and Steel Clusters

New Delhi  
Sagar Sandesh News Service

A project by the ministry of railways for the construction of a broad-gauge double line between Sawai Madhopur and Jaipur in Rajasthan state was examined by the Network Planning Group under Gati Shakti. The project spans about 131 km from Sawai Madhopur to Jaipur and is deemed to be a significant infrastructure initiative.

The Jaipur-Sawai Madhopur route serves as a feeder to the Delhi-Mumbai route, and it represents the primary conduit connecting Jaipur, its environs, and Mumbai, southern and eastern parts



NPG evaluates railways projects

of India. The proposed project would help alleviate congestion in the existing single-line network, resulting in uninterrupted traffic flow.

Further, NPG has evaluated a project proposed by the ministry of railways for the construction of a new broad-gauge line between Anand Nagar Ghughuli and Maharajganj on Northeastern Railway

in Uttar Pradesh. The proposed project spans 53 km from Anand Nagar.

The project is expected to enhance the economic development of the region by providing a direct broad-gauge line to the project area. The new line would serve as an alternate and shorter route for trains travelling from Valmikinagar to Gonda via Maharajganj without

having to stop at Gorakhpur Junction, according to the statement from the ministry of commerce and industry.

Passengers would benefit from this as the only transportation currently available in this section is by road. Additionally, the railway line is expected to facilitate the movement of cement, fertiliser, coal, and foodgrains. Moreover, the railway line would enable freight movement to Nepal.

Another project by the railways for the construction of new broad-gauge line between Junagarh and Nabarangpur station in Odisha state was examined by the NPG.

Last project by the ministry of railways

was for the provision of automatic block signalling on freight dense high utilisation network on Western Railway. The project aims to cover 895 route kilometre (RKM) and four major sections of Western Railway in Maharashtra and Gujarat. According to the statement, the benefit of the project includes enhanced line capacity and section speed to 130 kmph from 110 kmph that is likely to lead to cost reduction for the Railways and increase the overall logistics efficiency. This will result in a reduction of train detention and travel time, especially in the Udhna-Jalgaon, Ahmedabad - Palanpur, Ahmedabad - Viramgam-Samakhiyali, and Viramgam - Rajkot sections.