



# Vaarthha

'VCT has natural Depth of 16.5 m alongside - The deepest amongst Indian Container Terminals'

## Cabotage Relaxation: Positive move for VCT

NO. SW-15011/2/2016-MG  
Government of India  
Ministry of Shipping

Transport Bhawan  
New Delhi, Dated 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018

General Order No. 1 of 2018

**Subject: Relaxation under Section 407 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, for coastal movement of (a)EXIM Transshipment Containers and (b)Empty Containers**

26. This order shall come into force with immediate effect, and continue to be valid till further order, unless otherwise amended or withdrawn.
27. This issues with the approval of competent authority.

(P.K. Sharma)  
Under Secretary to the Government of India  
Tel/Fax: 011-23352726

Director General of Shipping  
Directorate General of Shipping,  
Beta Building, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
I-Think TechnoCampus  
Kanjur Marg,  
Mumbai 400042

The shipping fraternity has whole heartedly welcomed the decision on cabotage relaxation. This is more so in case of Visakhapatnam port as it's going to further enhance transshipment activity here.

VCT now boasts of worldwide connectivity with both mainline and feeder vessels calling on fixed window. Mother vessel call provides opportunity for transshipment from neighbouring ports that cannot handle bigger ships. While VCT continues to witness the growth in terms of Local & Rail Bound movement, with cabotage relaxation, it is poised to grow further and become "The Regional Transshipment Hub."

Container movements from Kolkata / Haldia, Yangon, Chittagong ports are being transhipped either at Colombo, Singapore or Port Klang. This is because only feeder vessels can call these ports in view of severe draft restrictions. In view of the strategic location of Vizag, it can offer this traffic the following advantage over these feeder ports.

Capacities - Visakhapatnam is the only port on the East Coast having a natural depth of 16.5 metres at the container terminal. This offers a marine capability of berthing the largest container vessel presently in operation in the world today without tidal restrictions. The port works 24x7, 365 days a year.

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## Portall the revolutionary digital application



PORTALL INFOSYSTEMS PRIVATE LIMITED

Be it documents exchange, cost reduction with appropriate time management, improved turnaround time, better efficiency and transparency, PORTALL is one application that works like the Port Community System (PCS) reaching out to the exporters and importers door steps in terms of ease of doing business. All that the user needs to do is, login to the system PORTALL and get the above done by a click of a button. Portall is an application developed by Century year old company JM Baxi Group which is planning to connect with all major ports in the country soon.

The group is also in liaison with IBM to work on the blockchain based systems. The system will help in two types of verticals, one is to speed up the transactions after proper streamlining and the second is on digital customs clearance solutions. This will enable the stakeholders to use Portall platform for all their transactions with effectiveness.

The shipping fraternity has too many systems to liaise with for the completion of documentation, filing, payments, compilations etc. With the revolutionary digital application Portall coming into implementation, the multiple system operations will be eliminated. It will be a single window operation which is in line with the government's goal 'ease of doing business'. The trade overall will get benefitted with faster, efficient and effective system. Portall is also tied up with Germany's dbh logistics IT A G, which is the oldest PCS provider in the world.

Visakha Container Terminal which is part of the major port and a group company of J M Baxi will also be benefitted with the upgrading application Portall connected to all stake holders in line to the country's best digital system PCS. This will help the trade to complete their transactions without any hassles and in a simplified manner.

## VISITORS AT VISAKHA CONTAINER TERMINAL



Ms. Malini Dutta from Antwerp Port Authority  
Visited on 04.05.2018



(From Left) Mr. Rahul N Gaikwad, Manager, Ms. Priya Jacob, Manager, Mr. Navukkarasu, Manager & Mr. D. Lakshmana Rao, Manager from Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) Visited on 08.05.2018



Team from Nilija Shipping & Logistics along with Srivalli Shipping agent  
Visited on 08.05.2018



(Right) Mr. Rajesh, Director & Mr. Kaleem, Branch Manager from Seashell Logistics Pvt. Ltd., Visited on 11.05.2018



(2<sup>nd</sup> from Right) Mr. Mohammed Nalir, Director, (Right) Mr. Gowri Sankar - (Left) General Manager, Mr. Subba Rao - Regional Manager & (2<sup>nd</sup> from Left) Mr. Sai Harish, Asst. Manager from Sea Hawk Lines Pvt. Ltd., Visited on 11.05.2018



(Right) Mr. Nagaraju, Branch Manager from Uniworld Logistics Pvt. Ltd., along with Mr. Siva from Western Carriers Visited on 11.05.2018



(Right) Mr. Amit Choubey, Head- Customer Service Division & Mr. Suresh, Sr. Manager - Port Operations from Tata Steel Limited Visited on 14.05.2018



(Left) Mr. Thevarpiran, Commercial Head, (South & East India) & Reefer Trade Manager & Mr. Rajesh, Head Commercial - Vizag from APL Logistics Visited on 18.05.2018



(Right) Mr. Manas Singh, GM - International & Mr. Taraka Rama Reddy, Director from RR Global Logistics Visited on 18.05.2018



(2<sup>nd</sup> from Right) Mr. Rajesh, Manager - Material & Logistics, Mr. Santosh Kumar, Manager - EHS from SNF (India) Pvt. Ltd. Along with Trans Globe Logistics agents Visited on 18.05.2018



(2<sup>nd</sup> from Right) Mr. Prasad Reddy, Divisional Manager, (Right) Ms. Haritha, Asst. Manager, (2<sup>nd</sup> from Left) Mr. Krishna Mohan, Executive- Marketing & (Left) Mr. Subramanyam, Executive from AP Tourism Development Corporation Ltd., Visited on 21.05.2018



Team from Nepal Embassy & Eminent Person Group (EPG) on Nepal India Relations Visited on 24.05.2018



(Right) Mr. Chandra Sekhar, Director & Mr. T. Saravana Kumar, DGM from MOL Logistics (India) Pvt Ltd. Visited on 24.05.2018



(Right) Mr. Tulasiram Reddy, SCM & Mr. Satish Reddy, Manager - Marketing from Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd., Visited on 25.05.2018



(Left) Mr. Surya Lanka, Head, Container Management, (Middle) Mr. Abhijeet Sinha, Sr. Manager & Mr. Suresh, Sr. Manager - Port Operations from Tata Steel Limited Visited on 29.05.2018



(Left) Mr. S T Nair, Manager - Port Operations from Indian Potash Limited & Mr. Prasad Reddy, Partner from Dhana Reddy & Co. Shipping Services, Visited on 30.05.2018

## Cabotage Relaxation: Positive move for VCT

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Geographical Location - Visakhapatnam port is only 329 nautical miles away from Kolkata, hence it is the closest port for transshipment of Kolkata / Haldia cargo with least transit time. Paradip will be even closer to Visakhapatnam. A single feeder vessel can enable a fixed weekly service as compared to minimum of two vessels required for any other existing or proposed hub.

Cost Savings - Cost is a major factor in deciding a transshipment port. With VPT extending 50% rebate in the vessel related charges for the feeder vessels, the cost is very low.

Distance comparison is as below:

Port	Distance in Nautical Miles		
	Visakhapatnam	Singapore	Colomb
Chittagong	578	1517	1292
Kolkata	404	1650	1061
Yangon	818	1117	1249



The foreign flag feeder vessels can now dip into Vizag port en-route to the major hubs or run as a shuttle between the said feeder ports and Vizag.

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## Health awareness @ VCT

Four pillars of VCT's success: Quality, Health, Safety & Environment. This has been the mantra for the organisation without compromising on any of the above mentioned. Utmost care is taken in meeting the customers' requirements in terms of Quality Service, Safety which is at its best as every individual who works in the terminal considers it their priority. Measures are taken to safeguard the environment with new initiatives like using Electric Vehicles that eliminates CO2 emissions etc. Health is something which is also taken into prime consideration as a healthy employee will be more productive, qualitative and safe. As hypertension has become a common health issue in today's generation, VCT observed World Hypertension Day on 17 May 2018. A health session on "Hypertension" was organised as part of CII & DRFHE-Continuous Health Education by Dr Sameer Nandan from Dr Mohan's Hospital. He also demonstrated few exercises which would be very useful to get respite from stress and thereby reduce the risk of hypertension. As part of this programme random blood sugar levels and blood pressure checks were carried out for employees and contract employees by Dr Mohan's Diabetic Centre, Visakhapatnam. At the end of the session the Doctor responded to the queries of the audience that would be helpful for a better health. VCT would encourage more such programmes in the future too, for good health of its employees.



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## Rice Exports on a Rise

Andhra Pradesh is the agriculture hub for the country with majority of rice exports towards Africa. Off late, the demand for rice is increasing and the shipment of the commodity has eventually moved to Asian countries too, especially to Indonesia and Bangladesh. While Vietnam and Thailand have been exporting rice simultaneously besides India, however their demand is slowing down due to rise in prices. Bangladesh has emerged as a major importer of rice that has imported 3.5 million tons during July '17 to March '18 period. In the next few weeks there is an expectation of further rice imports to Bangladesh from India.



Indian rice is currently quite competitive when compared with Vietnam and Thailand exporters. India's exports of rice jumped by 18% to a record volume of 12.7 million tons in FY 2017 - 18 lifted by demand for non-basmati rice from Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Benin followed by Jakarta. Andhra Pradesh state traders mentioned that prices have stabilised over the past few days with the availability of ample stock to supply the demand. Moreover, the Philippines contract of rice imports is also expected by the Indian traders to be bagged. While fulfilling the needs of Indonesia, Bangladesh, Africa's requirement, India can still supply to the Philippines requirement as well. Andhra Pradesh is playing the major role to fulfil the needs of demand and supply. Hence there has been a surge in rice shipments through Visakha Container Terminal, the world class facility in Visakhapatnam.

With the state-of-the-art facility back end infrastructure availability in the form of VCT CFS, the rice exporters find it as the preferred business partner. VCT CFS has closed bonded warehousing facility of 3000 sq. mts where the cargo is stored in a secured manner. The services of the CFS are available 24x7 a week, 365 days a year. The robust facilities with customised cargo handling equipment - conveyor belts help in completing the rice stuffing into the containers in a faster and safe manner. With the increased demand of Rice to the Asian countries, VCT CFS and the terminal are all set to handle the envisaged growth effectively and efficiently.