

डां वेंकट रमणा अक्कराजु

अध्यक्ष

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#### MESSAGE

While celebrating 75<sup>th</sup> year of Independence of our great country, I am extremely delighted to share my views on the fast growing Port of New Mangalore.

The path chosen by the port is both progressive and pragmatic. With the draft ranging from 14 mtrs, the port is equipped with 16 berths + 1 SPM with usable capacity of 74 MMT per Annum. Bestowed with a vibrant industrial hinterland and good road and rail connectivity, New Mangalore Port is a fast growing port in the west coast of India. The current year 2022-23 is very encouraging, be it in terms of traffic, revenue or development works - the port is all set to cruise ahead. We could overcome many challenges during last 2 years of pandemic effects. With this trend I am hopeful of crossing 40 Million tonnes of traffic by the end of the current fiscal.

As regards the infrastructure development, various projects are in different stages of completion. Mechanisation of container handling at B.14 is completed and ready for commissioning. The main entrance of the Port – Mallya Gate is under renovation with four lanes with state of the art RFID system. In addition, 360° automated vehicle scanning is also proposed at this gate, which will eliminate manual intervention in security clearance. This will reduce the dwell time at the gate to less than 2 minutes for trucks. The Port is ready with launching of new website with added features for the benefit of Trade, employees and pensioners. The pension portal has been revamped with new features like online filing of medical claims, enquiry on status of bills, etc. which I am sure will definitely help the pensioners without visiting the port/hospital multiple times. Another feather in the crown of New Mangalore Port is the recent receipt of Greentech Award-2022 in gold category for outstanding achievement in environment protection. Ministry's ambitious projects under Vision 2030/NIP/Gati Shakti are also under progress. 10 projects are identified for investment opportunities at the Port.

Once these development works are completed, I am optimistic that this vibrant port will reach greater heights in the years to come.

My best wishes to all on this occasion of Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav.

1-8-2022

(Dr. Venkata Ramana Akkaraju)