

## PRESS RELEASE

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## **Independence Day 2020**

The 74th Independence Day was celebrated at NMPT by the Port employees in a restrained manner amid the pandemic. The celebration was limited to 50 attendees and avoiding large congregation in the ceremony. The guidelines of MHA was adhered diligently by following preventive measures like social distancing, wearing of masks that are absolutely imperative to make sure that the celebrations are carried out safely. Shri A.V. Ramana, Chairman of the Port hoisted the National Flag and addressed the audience, hailing the COVID warriors who worked relentlessly and tirelessly in the fight against the pandemic. The Chairman further talked about the glory of India in the yester centuries. Dating back to 600 B.C. till 7<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> A.D. India was accepted as a golden sparrow basically of wisdom and treasure. The Independence which we are enjoying today is bestowed by the great freedom fighters like Mahatma Gandhi who sacrificed their life for the country. To make India from Swaraj to Suswaraj, India should become more self-reliant by giving encouragement to Indian industries particularly the small and village industries. If 130 crores of Indian population consumes only the 'Make in India' products, it is not difficult for Indian economy to reach 5 trillion US Dollars. At the port level also instructions are already given by various Board Resolutions to encourage NSIC & MSME and 'Make in India' products. Even the contracts like dredging and tug hire will be only limited to India. These are being done as a part of Atmanirbhar Bharat call given by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. The celebration culminated with distribution of cash awards to the Covid Warriors and exemplary service officials.