

Date: 05-04-2023

## 60<sup>th</sup> National Maritime Day celebration at NMPA.

Under the able leadership of Dr. A. V. Ramana, Chairperson, New Mangalore Port Authority celebrated 60<sup>th</sup> National Maritime Day with fervor & gaiety in the August presence of Shri K.G. Nath, Deputy Chairperson, NMPA&Chief Guest of the function Dr. CA. A. Raghavendra Rao, Chancellor, Srinivas University, Mangalore. Dr. Srinivas Rao, Pro-Chancellor, Srinivas University, Head of the Departments, Trustees, Officers, Indian Coastguard & Mercantile Marine Department officials, Port users, stakeholders, employees and staff participated in the celebration.

The day commenced with laying of wreath at the Seamen's Memorial to pay tribute to the seafarers who sacrificed their lives in service to the Nation. This was followed by unfurling of the National Maritime Day Flag&Ceremonial Guard of Honourfrom the various Port crafts were received by Deputy Chairperson. All port crafts& vessels in the harbour were dressed up for the occasion and ship's whistles were blown as per the tradition to mark the occasion.

Traditional folk dance & yakshagana were performed in the Port Craftsto mark the celebration which was unique & spectacular by itself. Various competitions were conducted during the weeklong celebration for the Maritime College students, port employees & stake holders. Prizes were awarded to the winners during the function.

Chief Guest addressed the gathering and recalled the contribution of the mariners which is a major contribution towards the economic growth of the country which plays a major role. He reminisced the thousand years old rich Indian heritage of maritime trade and remembered the seamen who sacrificed their lives at Sea.

Deputy Chairperson in his speechmentioned the significance of the ancient Port of Lothal in maritime sector and the most ambitious project of constructing National Maritime Heritage Complex by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW)under the Sagarmala Scheme to recreate Lothal in the same way as it was during the ancient time, to showcase India's rich and diverse maritime glory& highlighted the robust maritime history of the country.

Capt. S. R. Pattanayak Deputy Conservator, NMPA expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the august gathering.

Dy. Conservator New Mangalore Port Authority