



Press Release

Date: 23-02-2024

Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka, Shri Thaawar Chand Gehlot visits New Mangalore Port on its 50th year in the service of the Nation

Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka, Shri Thaawar Chand Gehlot visited New Mangalore Port on 23rd February 2024 at 1530hrs in view of its 50th year in the service of the Nation. The Honourable Governor arrived in Mangalore on 22.02.2024 for the 48th Indian Coast Guard Raising Day after which he visited the Port on its completion of 50 years of service since the first cargo vessel "MV SATSU MARU" arrived in 10.06.1974.

Upon his arrival at NMPA Administration Office building, the Hon'ble Governor was welcomed by Dr. A. V. Ramana, Chairman, NMPA along with Deputy Chairman, Shri K. G. Nath and Senior Officials of the Port. Chairman, NMPA apprised the Hon'ble Governor about several infrastructural and technological advancements achieved by the Port. This was followed by a meeting with the Senior Officers of the Port. Hon'ble Governor was briefed about working of the Port including the green initiatives, developmental projects & digital initiatives being undertaken apart from the Port's Master Plan for Amrit Kaal upto 2047.

In his welcoming speech, Dr. A. V. Ramana expressed immense joy at the Governor's visit to New Mangalore Port, coinciding with its 50th anniversary. He highlighted the port's achievements in the last decade and its vision for the future. He began by quoting a Kannada poem showcasing the state's cultural richness. He mentioned the port's growth in cargo handling, revenue, and profitability. He proudly announced it to be one of the most profitable major/non-major ports, with a net profit of 350 crores in the last fiscal year. He outlined the port's ambitious plans for the future, aligned with India's vision for the next 25 years. He expressed deep appreciation for the Governor's presence, which further enhanced the celebratory atmosphere of the port's golden jubilee.

During the program Hon'ble Governor virtually inaugurated two projects of the Port, namely; **"Golden Jubilee AOB Circle Road"** & **"Golden Jubilee truck Parking Terminal"** of worth Rs. 6.25 Crores as a part of the 50 years celebration of service of the Port.

The Governor expressed his happiness & congratulated the Port on its "Golden Jubilee" year of service to the Nation. He appreciated the various developmental works undertaken by the Port and its growth trajectory since inception. He stated that, *"The Port has played a pivotal role in the transformative journey of Major Ports of the Country in the past decade. With a capacity of 74 MTPA, the port achieved a record handling of 42.5 MMT in 2018-19. Despite challenges posed*

by the pandemic, the port has rebounded to pre-COVID levels, handling 41.3 MMT in 2022-23 and is on the course to achieve all-time high 45MMT in 2023-24. New Mangalore Port's journey over the past 50 years is a testament to resilience, innovation, and unwavering commitment to excellence. As we look forward to the future, the port's robust infrastructure, environmental stewardship, and community-focused initiatives set the stage for its continued success and growth”.

Golden Jubilee AOB Circle Road; The Port’s newly aligned Pavement Quality Concrete (PQC) road connecting NMPA’s Administration Office Building circle to Road No. 1 junction was completed within the six-month timeframe and budget of Rs.2.54 Crores. Prior to this transformation, the congested K.K Gate and challenging road conditions posed significant difficulties for truckers and port users. The new road will facilitate port users, by congestion free cargo movement. This project demonstrates NMPA's commitment on improving efficiency and safety for all port users.

Golden Jubilee truck Parking Terminal; The Truck Parking Terminal near Custom House building close to NH 66 was built at a total cost of Rs. 3.71 Crores, offering a more efficient and convenient experience for truck drivers, the 11,948 sqm terminal, including a well paved approach road, boasts a durable PQC surface, accommodating approximately 180 trucks and trailers comfortably. NMPA in its commitment to further streamlining its operations, will be introducing a Fastag-based parking fee collection system at the renovated Truck parking terminal. In this regard, Port invited Tenders from Nationalized / Scheduled Banks / Authorized FASTag Service Providers for the work of “Providing FASTag based system for collection of parking fees including installation and maintenance of equipment (software & hardware) for ten (10) years period. The Fastag system will ensure quick and hassle-free transactions, saving drivers precious time and reducing congestion at the entrance.

The upgraded Truck Parking Terminal & Golden Jubilee AOB Circle Road at New Mangalore Port is a testament to the Port’s commitment on enhancing efficiency and convenience for all stakeholders.

Chief Vigilance Officer, Heads of the Departments, Officers & employees participated in the programme.

Secretary
New Mangalore Port Authority