

**PM GATI SHAKTI INITIATIVE**  
**Press Release**

A concerted and coordinated development of Logistics Sector including first mile / last mile connectivity, removal of bottle necks, development of Multi Modal logistic parks, etc. have been prime elements of the Prime Minister Gati Shakti plans. In order to reach out to all stakeholders and to sensitize the media about the various Gati Shakti initiatives undertaken by Chennai Port Authority and Kamarajar Port Limited, an outreach programme was organized on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 in association with MCCI. The Govt. of Tamil Nadu and National Highways Authority of India made the outreach programme more meaningful by their participation and explaining important Gati Shakti initiatives undertaken by them.

The programme started with welcome address by Shri T.R. Kesavan, Vice President, MCCI, who underlined the importance of Prime Minister Gati Shakti initiatives. This was followed by presentation made by Shri S.P. Somashekar, Regional Officer, NHAI, Chennai. First mile / last mile connectivity to ports and logistics parks has been an important area of concern for NHAI. Detailing out various connectivity projects of NHAI to facilitate the development of the Logistics Sector, the Regional Officer briefed how their timely completion would benefit the stakeholders.

On this occasion, the operational performance of Chennai Port Authority was touched upon by Shri S. Balaji, IRTS, Dy. Chairman, ChPA. He underlined various improvements witnessed by ChPA in recent times.

The Chairman of Chennai Port Authority and CMD of KPL, Shri Sunil Paliwal, IAS, in his key note address, gave an overview of the objectives and scope of Prime Minister Gati Shakti plan and stated how Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is pursuing and monitoring these initiatives in coordination with different Ministries. He mentioned that 13 initiatives related to capacity addition, connectivity, dredging

etc., are being implemented under Prime Minister Gati Shakti plan. Chennai Port has identified 7 initiatives viz., Construction of Bunker Berth at Bharathi Dock, Development of the Goods Shed facility at Jolarpet, New Elevated Road from Chennai Port to Maduravoyal, Development of Multimodal Logistics Park at Mappedu, Development of Buffer Parking yard for Container Trailers at BDII (Berth No. 24B), Direct entry from reception line to Centre Yard and CONCOR Yard to center yard to avoid double handling and Electrification of Railway lines with top wiring for engine on load concept at Western Yard. Kamarajar Port has identified 6 Initiatives viz., Development of Common User Marine Liquid Terminal –II on DBFOT basis, Modification of existing Iron Ore Terminal to also handle coal, Construction of Container Terminal Phase-1- stage-II, Construction of IOCL Captive Jetty, Development of Ro-Ro cum General Cargo Berth- II and Dredging Plan- Phase-IV(A). On completion, these initiatives will lead to tremendous improvement not only in ports performance but also in entire logistic supply chain. He stated that the ease of doing business indices would significantly improve under Prime Minister Gati Shakti plan.

As a highlight of this outreach programme, Shri S. Krishnan, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Industries Department, Govt. of Tamil Nadu delivered his special address. He underlined the importance of seamless logistic supply chain and the commitment of Govt. of Tamil Nadu to achieve this objective. He stated that as an important Maritime State, Tamil Nadu has always been proactive in upgrading the logistics sector as a whole. The State Logistics Coordination Committee headed by Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tamil Nadu is monitoring the coordinated development and implementation of all initiatives under State Logistic Plan. He assured active participation of Govt. of Tamil Nadu in achieving the objectives of Prime Minister Gati Shakti plan.

The outreach programme also witnessed an open house interaction amongst media and stakeholders and other dignitaries.

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