



Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry

MCCI LOGISTICS CONCLAVE 2022

on **21st October 2022**
at **Taj Bengal**, Kolkata

The Theme of the Conclave was
**“Logistics Beyond Boundaries:
Reshaping Logistics Sector”**

The Chief Guest of the Conclave was
Shri Shantanu Thakur
Minister of State,
Ports Shipping & Waterways,
Government of India.

The Inaugural Session
was also addressed by Special Guests:

Mr. Hoe Yun Jeong
Deputy Country Director,
Asian Development Bank and

Mr. P. L. Haranadh
IRTS, Chairman,
Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port,
Kolkata.





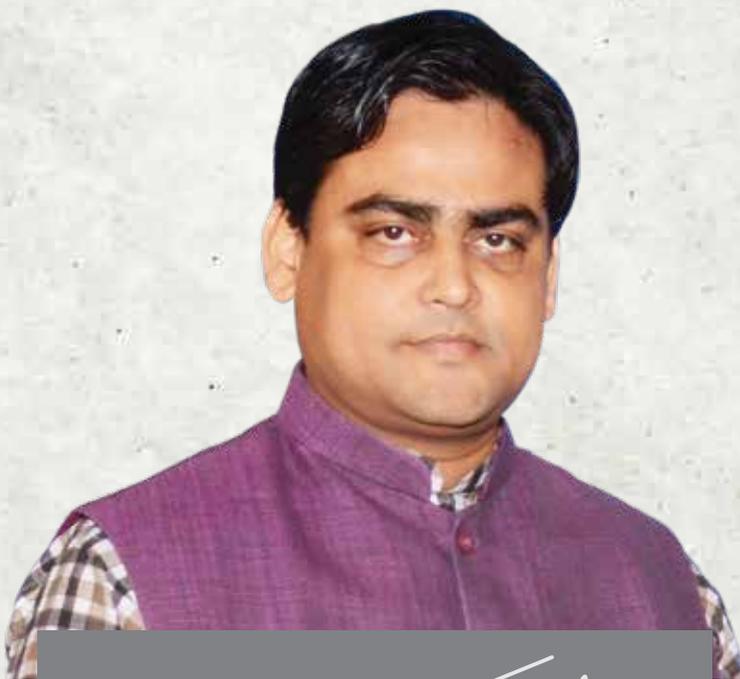
Mr. Rishabh C. Kothari, President, MCCI presenting a bouquet to Shri Shantanu Thakur, Minister of State, Ports Shipping & Waterways, Government of India and on his right Mr. Lalit Beriwal, Senior Vice President, MCCI at the "MCCI Logistics Forum 2022", Logistics Beyond Boundaries: Reshaping Logistics Sector held on 21.10.2022 at the Hotel Taj Bengal.

Mr. Rishabh C. Kothari, President, MCCI in his Welcome Address emphasized on the importance of Unified Logistics Interface Platform (ULIP). He mentioned that the logistic cost in India is between 13 and 14 % of the GDP, which is very high. Countries like Germany and Japan, which are known for their highly developed infrastructure and systems for logistics, spend just about 8% to 9% of their GDP on logistics. He further said that in India, Investment in technology in logistics sector has been at a lower level when compared to many developed nations and hence need urgent attention.

While deliberating on Industry perspective, **Mr. Lalit Beriwal**, Senior Vice President, MCCI mentioned that for boosting external trade through increased export of commodities like steel etc. as well as to meet the domestic requirements , urgent initiatives for development of riverine transport network by way of expanding the outreach of National Waterway-I are necessary. Connecting the NW-I to the existing riverine system for movement of goods to the states as well as for exporting goods to Bangladesh via Agartala at reduced cost and time in a seamless manner would lead to faster realisation of the goals set forth in the vision and in the Sagarmala Programme.



(Lighting of the Lamp) - L to R : **Mr. Hoe Yun Jeong**, Deputy Country Director, Asian Development Bank, **Dr. Saugat Mukherjee**, Director General, MCCI, **Mr. Lalit Beriwal**, Senior Vice President, MCCI, **Mr. Rishabh C. Kothari**, President, MCCI, **Mr. P. L. Haranadh**, IRTS, Chairman, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata, **Mr. Shantanu Thakur**, Minister of State, Ports Shipping & Waterways, Government of India, **Mr. Vishal Jhajharia**, Past President, MCCI, **Dr. Jivisha Joshi Gangopadhyay**, Deputy Secretary, Logistics Division, DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, **Mr. Lavesh Poddar**, Chairman, Council on Logistics, Transport & Shipping, MCCI, **Mr. Samrat Rahi**, Deputy Chairman, KDS, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port and **Mr. Eshor Raj Poudel**, Consul General, Consulate of Nepal, Kolkata at the “MCCI Logistics Forum 2022”, Logistics Beyond Boundaries: Reshaping Logistics Sector.



Shantanu Thakur

Shri Shantanu Thakur, Minister of State, Ports Shipping & Waterways, Government of India mentioned that the world has accepted the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme implemented by the Government of India and he viewed that the National Logistics Policy will bring new dimensions to the PLI Scheme involving all sectors in the process.

In this context, he mentioned about PM Gati-Shakti National Master Plan (PMGS-NMP) launched in 2021 which is a transformative approach for economic growth and sustainable development taken by the Government. The approach is driven by 7 engines, namely Railways, Roads, Ports, Waterways, Airports, Mass Transport and Logistics Infrastructure. The scope of PM GatiShakti National Master

Plan is encompassing the 7 engines for economic transformation, seamless multimodal connectivity and logistics efficiency.

He further said that the National Logistics Policy is intended to work in combination with the PM GatiShakti National Master Plan to develop an integrated infrastructure network in an efficient and cost-effective manner. The National Logistics policy is a comprehensive effort to address cost and inefficiency through setting up of an overarching interdisciplinary, cross-sectoral, and multi-jurisdictional framework for the developing entire logistics ecosystem.

While elaborating on the developments in the logistics sector, Shri Thakur highlighted that the average ship turnaround time at major Indian ports have been improved to 26 hours from 44 hours. He further added that waterways are the most cost-effective way of transport in logistics space and the logistics industry must explore this. He also mentioned that 33 Indian airports have cold storage facilities to promote exports.



Hoe Yun Jeong

While addressing the Conclave, **Mr. Hoe Yun Jeong**, Deputy Country Director, Asian Development Bank mentioned that ADB supports building India's economic competitiveness and job creation and played the role of a key development partner with the government in the development of East-Coast Economic Corridor, North-East Economic Corridor, and the development of world class development clusters. Since 2017, Asian Development Bank has been actively working with Indian government in the development of Multi-modal logistics parks in different states, facilitating coastal shipping and building regional connects with South and South-East Asia. He further mentioned that ADB is keen to work with the government in the development of Railways and Highways infrastructure and development of multi-modal logistics parks, rope-way development to name a few. "There is a urgent need to move from Roads to other green modes of transportation" – said Mr. Jeong.

ADB's 5 years operation strategy for India - 'Country Partnership Strategy 2023-2027' will focus on development of Industrial Corridor and providing support to infrastructure logistics sector development. He further said that MCCI's role is critical in understanding the ground level challenges faced by the industry and help to create critical solution.

Mr. P. L. Haranadh,
Chairman, Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata, lauded the initiatives of the Government of India in implementation of PM GatiShakti - National Master Plan and National Logistics Policy.

While sharing few statistics on port, Mr. Haranadh stated that as growth in port sector is related to country's GDP, for India to become US\$ 5 trillion economy, the port will have to handle US\$ 2.24 bn cargo in next 5 years. He pointed out that the EXIM cargo is the most important challenge before all. Sagarmala project worth Rs. 6.5 lac crore is a massive investment project initiated by the Government. The Syama Prasad Mookherjee Port has invested Rs.700 crore in the capacity augmentation. Another Rs.950 crore worth of projects are under implementation and another 24 crore worth of projects are in pipeline under Sagarmala Project.

While speaking on



P. L. Haranadh

the initiatives taken by the KoPT, he mentioned that the Port Authority has developed Maritime Vision 2030 focusing on modernization of the port, green port development and digitization of ports. The Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port has a capacity of handling 87 mn tonne of cargo and presently it is handling 60 mn tonne. By 2030, the port is geared up to handle 110 mn tonne cargo.

He informed that the KoPT is considering setting up of a tunnel under Hooghly River through which cargo can move easily without interfering with the city traffic. He also informed that the port is trying to address issues of low draft and also night navigation.

While speaking on the private investment opportunity, he mentioned that there are Rs 2400 crore of investments in the pipeline and it will be put into operation by KOPT by 2030. With the availability of 4000 acre of land bank to the Port, the authority is considering private players in the development of the port projects.

The Inaugural Session concluded with hearty Vote of Thanks proposed by **Mr. Lavesh Poddar**, Chairman, Council on Logistics, Transport & Shipping, MCCI.



Session on
**Logistics & Supply Chain
 Management: Current
 Trends & Future Prospects**

(L to R) **Mr. Sunil Agarwal**, Managing Director, CTI Logistics Pvt. Ltd., **Dr. Jivisha Joshi Gangopadhyay**, Deputy Secretary, Logistics Division, DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India. **Mr. Lavesh Poddar**, Chairman, Council on Logistics, Transport & Shipping, MCCI, **Mr. Sanjiban Basu**, East Regional Head- CRD, Blue Star

Dr. Jivisha Joshi Gangopadhyay, Deputy Secretary, Logistics Division, DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India in her address highlighted the opportunities of National Master Plans: PM GatiShakti and National Logistics Policy 2022. National Master Plan comprises 1500 confirmation networks and operates under Digital Base 2.0. Under the National Master Plan, PM Gatishakti initiative would now route the total investment of over INR 500 cr. through Network Planning Group (NPG). PM Gatishakti is essentially a digital platform to bring 16 Ministries including Railways and Roadways together for integrated planning and coordinated implementation of infrastructure connectivity projects. The multi-modal connectivity provides integrated and seamless connectivity for movement of people, goods and services from one mode of transport to another. It facilitates the last mile connectivity of infrastructure

The Inaugural Session was followed by two engaging Sessions namely **Session on Logistics & Supply Chain Management: Current Trends & Future Prospects** and **Session on Rail, Road, Port Connectivity: Connecting Neighbourhood.**

Session on Logistics & Supply Chain Management: Current Trends & Future Prospects was addressed by **Mr. Sanjiban Basu**, East Regional Head- CRD, Blue Star, **Mr. Sunil Agarwal**, Managing Director, CTI Logistics Pvt. Ltd. & **Dr. Jivisha Joshi Gangopadhyay**, Deputy Secretary, Logistics Division, DPIIT, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India.

and also reduces travel time and cost, she further added.

PM Gatishakti initiative is operating under a horizontal coordination framework. The main aim of PM Gatishakti initiative is to connect whole logistics sector through multimodal connectivity. Under this initiative, the Government of India has already initiated 2 projects under Bharat Mala and 21 new highway projects. While speaking on National Logistics Policy, Dr. Gangopadhyay identified that National logistics Policy has been introduced to reduce the total logistics cost. Beside this, she added that under Unified Logistics Interface Platform, the Government of India has also introduced 1600 plus API applications for the logistics industries. It is a promising initiative that aims to bring ease of doing business in the logistics sector by simplifying the logistics processes, improving its efficiency, bringing in transparency and visibility, and reducing logistics cost & time. Already 13 states have introduced State Logistics Policy under National Logistics Policy. She also highlighted the benefit of Logistics Data Bank. With the help of a logistics databank, the industries are now able to track the vehicles via ICD code - she said.



Mr. Sanjiban Basu, East Regional Head- CRD, Blue Star in his address informed that 60% of the total cold storage capacity is concentrated in the states of Uttar-Pradesh and West Bengal and West Bengal has 5.9 million MT of Cold storage installation capacity. 92% of cold storage in India is operated by private sector. He further added that the Government of India has decided to build integrated cargo complex at major airports which will be equipped to handle all kinds of goods.

Mr. Basu pointed out that Cold chain logistics is the technology and process that allows for the safe transport of temperature sensitive goods and products along the supply chain. It relies heavily on science

to evaluate and accommodate for the link between temperature and perishability.

While speaking on present scenario of Cold chain infrastructure, Mr. Basu emphasised on setting up of multipurpose cold storage rather than conventional single commodity storage. In India cold chain market reached a value of INR 1585.1 billion in 2021. It is expected to reach INR 3637 billion by 2027 exhibiting a CAGR of 14.72% during 2022-2027.

In the context of modern technology and infrastructure, Mr. Basu shared that in perishable logistics, time is the essence to ensure perishable products reach their destinations while they still offer

maximum appeal, as a result many of goods move via air.

Mr. Basu also highlighted some challenges like lack of road infrastructure, continuity of the Cold Supply Chain and high capital investment. He also identified opportunities like new and high tech technology in cold storage, CA storage, IQF, ripening, etc., farm level storage solutions and new packaging technology.



Mr. Sunil Agarwal, Managing Director, CTI Logistics Pvt. Ltd. in his address mentioned that logistics sector has evolved in greater way over the last 30 years. In the past the main obstacles of the logistics sector was logistics travel time, now it has come down.

Mr. Agarwal mentioned that, in recent times, logistics sector has witnessed the problems like no entry of highway, excessive toll tax, insufficiency of advance warehouses. These are the main reasons for high logistics cost. In India, the logistics cost is 16% of the total GDP in compared to China which is 10% and United States which is 8%.

Mr. Agarwal suggested that to reduce the logistics cost, the industry should introduce large capacity vehicles. He further mentioned IOT technology and cold chain logistics management in transportation and logistics would be key. IOT is about connectivity, smart management, and operational optimization, he said.



The second technical session was moderated by **Mr. Nimish Saraf**, Council Co-Chair, Logistics, Transport and Shipping with **Mr. Samrat Rahi**, Deputy Chairman, KDS, Syama Prasad Mukherjee Port; **H.E. Mr. Eshar Raj Poudel**, Consul-General of Nepal in Kolkata; **Mr. Souma Sekhar Gangopadhyay**, Logistics Consultant, DPIIT; **Mr. Utpal Kanti Bal**, Principal Chief Operation Manager, South Eastern Railway and **Mr. Krishan Kumar Bansal**, MD, DHTC India Ltd.

Mr. Samrat Rahi, Deputy Chairman, KDS, Syama Prasad Mukherjee Port expressing his appreciation for the MCCI Logistics Conclave, thanked the Chamber for organizing what he described as a brainstorming session among the diverse stakeholders of the National Logistics Policy. He spoke about the drive

(L to R) **Mr. Utpal Kanti Bal**, Principal Chief Operation Manager, South Eastern Railway, **Mr. Krishan Kumar Bansal**, MD, DHTC India Ltd. , **Mr. Nimish Saraf**, Council Co-Chair, Logistics, Transport and Shipping, **Mr. Souma Sekhar Gangopadhyay**, Logistics Consultant, DPIIT, **H.E. Mr. Eshar Raj Poudel**, Consul-General of Nepal in Kolkata, **Mr. Samrat Rahi**, Deputy Chairman, KDS, Syama Prasad Mukherjee Port



towards port digitization, modernization and connectivity. He said that KoPT maintains 32 roads which were now being moved from bituminous to paver blocks; road widening and removal of encroachment along with road tunnel construction to bypass traffic congestion are also being considered. Existing rail lines were being strengthened to augment capacity and reduce traffic and inland water connectivity is being improved. Balagarh Port will be developed to act as a feeder for KoPT, he mentioned.



H.E. Mr. Eshor Raj Poudel, Consul-General of Nepal in Kolkata lauded GOI for the Neighborhood First policy, the Transit treaty which connected India and Nepal via 15 points and mentioned that this greater connectivity would be further augmented by Kolkata-Kathmandu flight connectivity.

Mr. Souma Sekhar Gangopadhyay, Logistics Consultant, DPIIT spoke about the PM Gatishakti National Logistics Master Plan, and its streams – especially Port Connectivity Master Plan and the vision for capacity building for 2030. He highlighted the need to reimagine Port connectivity through better utilization of existing ports, infrastructure improvement and rapid embracing of Digital Technology.

Mr. Krishan Kumar Bansal, MD, DHTC India Ltd. spoke about the need to build human-centric infrastructure like rest stops for transporters so accidents due to sleep deprivation are prevented. He added that reduced rate of accidents and loss of human lives and material are an essential part of reducing Logistics cost.

Mr. Utpal Kanti Bal, Principal Chief Operation Manager, South Eastern Railway mentioned that bringing Logistics cost down was a mandate for the Railways and to achieve low transportation cost, just in time availability of material to eliminate storage costs was critical. The seasonal variation in the transportation sector, which created a trough during the monsoons and a peak during December to March, could be addressed with better infrastructure via Gatishakti implementation, he added.

While moderating the session, **Mr. Nimish Saraf**, Co-Chairman, Council for Logistics, Shipping and Transport, MCCI mentioned that Integration is critically important for multi-modal logistics to become a reality. The National Logistics Policy, along with an integrated BIMSTEC, can become an accelerated lever for economic growth in West Bengal.



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ABOUT MCCI

MCCI is a non-government, not-for-profit, industry-led and industry-managed organization, with around 700 direct members and 15,000 indirect members covering a wide cross-section of small, medium & large industries, trades, professions and services. There are 30 Standing Committees under the Executive Committee, looking after various aspects of the industry, trade and services sectors. Besides, 10 Associations of Industry & Trade are affiliated to MCCI.

For over 120 years, MCCI has worked to develop an indigenous vibrant industrial base in the country, especially in the Eastern India. The indomitable spirit and quest to build an institution to safeguard the interests of the indigenous business community led to the birth of a Baishya Sabha. With the changing times now it stands as MCCI. MCCI has always evolved to reinvent itself to meet the requirements of the times and is presently going through another such transformative phase in the era of 'new normal'.

MCCI works as a bridge between businesses and the policy makers to create a conducive economic environment for the industry to prosper and flourish while benefitting all the stakeholders in the economy. It works on the goal to take Indian industry to a higher growth trajectory.

MCCI is one of the leading Chambers of Eastern India which has always worked for the betterment of MSMEs. The Chamber has been continuously organising MSME Helpdesks in association with the Department of MSME and Textile, Government of West Bengal. Several Business Programmes are organized for the benefit of the members.

MCCI looks to the future with confidence in its capacity to serve the people and the business community of Eastern region and in the process, contribute to the economic development of the State in particular and the country as a whole.

For the year 2022, MCCI is prepared to provide opportunities for growth and development to its members through 4E's ~ Explore, Educate, Empower and Enable which will help members achieve the 5th E ~ Excellence in all spheres.

MCCI has always evolved to reinvent itself to meet the requirements of the times and is presently working on the specific Theme "Bouncing Back", working closely with the State and Central Government on policy matters and also building bridges through international connect initiatives.



Merchants' Chamber of Commerce & Industry

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