

Annual Shipping Conclave
on
LOGISTICS IN INDIA – THE WAY AHEAD
Friday 7th December 2018 at The Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCC&I)
(Royal Exchange, 6, Netaji Subhas Road, Kolkata – 700001)

RECOMMENDATIONS:-

- Better co-ordination amongst various Ministries and Stakeholders related to the logistics sector, both at Central and State level - instead of individual segments working in silos leading to seamless multimodal logistic chain.
- Development of proper RO-RO services to obviate the problem of road traffic restrictions during the day in Metros like Kolkata.
- Single window clearance – both for inter-state, intra-state movement of cargo in different modes of transport.
- Augmenting infrastructure at Petrapole / Benapole border – particularly on the Bangladesh side through continuous dialogue between Government of India and Bangladesh
- Incentivise Water transport to minimise road traffic as the same is essential for India to fulfil its environmental obligations under Paris Accord and other international treaties. (The Kerala Model may serve as a reference point).
- Augmenting infrastructure particularly related to last mile connectivity to port to achieve seamless multimodal transportation and reduction in door to door transportation cost and time.
- Increase number of berths for container vessels in Kolkata – particularly for gearless vessels to ease congestion and resultant berthing delays.
- With the emphasis being accorded to coastal shipping, both by Central and State Government, consideration should be given to allow priority berthing to coastal vessels and to allow extended free period in port to domestic cargo.
- Central Government should seriously consider mandating imports on FOB basis and Exports on CIF basis, wherever possible, to retain the control on logistics by Indian Exim players, thereby giving a flip to Indian Shipping.
- GST on bunker fuel should be “Zero” rated in line with the international practice so as to make bunkering at Indian ports competitive vis-à-vis the neighbouring countries like Singapore and Colombo.
- Encourage use of RFID tags at all ICDs for better tracking of containers, resulting in substantial reduction in time and costs of container handling.
