



### Adani forms holding firm in Singapore to invest in global ports

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) has set up a wholly owned holding company in Singapore to pursue potential port opportunities globally as India's biggest private port operator seeks to become the world's largest port company by 2030. Adani International Ports Holdings Pte Ltd was incorporated on June 16 this year around the time chief executive officer Karan Adani unveiled the firm's global ambitions in a speech in the firm's annual report for 2020-21 released that month. The new Singapore-based holding company, according to sources, will look after the international ports business outside of the ASEAN region for which it has formed a separate unit in the island nation in July 2017 named Adani International Terminals Pte Ltd (AITPL). AITPL will act as a regional hub for investments in the ASEAN region and benefit from various trade opportunities available under the ASEAN Free Trade Agreement (FTA). AITPL will serve as the network point for investments in container terminals in Singapore, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam. APSEZ runs 12 ports and terminals across the western and eastern seaboard with a capacity to handle 498 million tonnes (mt) of cargo.

### Israel set to open massive new Haifa port on September 1

Israel's new Gulf Port of Haifa is set to begin operations on September 1, creating new competition among Israel's ports. One of the largest infrastructure projects in Israel, the new port was built over 15 years with a NIS 5 billion government investment. The port is built entirely offshore, with docks 800 meters long extending 17.3 meters below sea level and connecting to the Haifa coast. "The opening of the Gulf port will revolutionize the entire economy. It is the newest port in the world, with the latest in port technology," said Yitzhak Blumenthal, CEO of the Israel Ports Company. "This will have a dramatic impact on everyone, from manufacturers to the Israeli consumer. This will reduce the cost of living, because almost all products, including the raw materials used by Israeli industry, come through the gates of seaports." The new port is located near the existing Haifa port that has served Israel since before the state's founding and is currently Israel's largest port. It is being built by Israeli companies Shapir Engineering and Ashtrom, and will be operated by China's Shanghai International Port Group, one of the world's largest shipping managers, for a period of 25 years.

### India's Mormugao Port offers discounts to attract new container feeder vessels

The Mormugao Port Trust (MPT) in Goa on Thursday issued a notice offering heavy concessions on availing its container shipping facilities to quell rumours of the imminent closure of container services at the port. In a statement issued Friday, the MPT said that a major container agent had asked its customers to stop taking container bookings from MPT and the port authorities learnt that the only container feeder vessel operator from MPT Goa was going to discontinue the container vessel's call at MPT. "However, it is important to understand that neither the feeder operator, nor any container agent formally informed the port about these decisions, which have a very negative impact on the entire value chain of containerized trade in Goa," the MPT said in a statement. The 'rumours' had led to concerns over the livelihood of 450-500 locals engaged in various services allied with container shipping including trailer operators, shipping line services and logistics companies. According to port officials, this would have created barriers in the industrial and manufacturing activities of Goa, due to an increase in costs for export of finished products and import of raw materials.

### DP World and Russia to Pilot Container Shipping Via the Arctic Route

Russia continues to develop shipping through the Arctic promoting it as a faster route that is an alternative to the Suez Canal. In the latest development, ROSATOM, the Russian nuclear energy company that is the infrastructure operator of the Northern Sea Route announced a cooperation agreement with DP World for a pilot container shipping project using the NSR. The two companies will work together to develop and test the infrastructure to support cargo to be transported through the Arctic between Northern Europe and East Asia. "DP World supports Russia's efforts to diversify trade flows between Asia and Europe," said Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem, Group Chairman and CEO of DP World. "DP World has already committed to invest \$2 billion with the Russian Direct Investment Fund, and we will continue to work with our partners in Russia to find solutions that allow the Northern Transit Corridor to develop sustainably." According to ROSATOM, the Northern Maritime Transport Corridor (NMTC) is being created in stages on the basis of the Northern Sea Route under the NSR Infrastructure Development Plan 2035 approved by the Government of the Russian Federation.

### Transworld Group organises Valli & Sivaswamy Memorial Talks & Concert Series

Transworld Group organized the Valli & Sivaswamy Memorial Talk & Concert Series in commemorating the founders of the Transworld Group. This virtual event featured a candid talk with International Chess Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand and a performance by playback singer Jonita Gandhi. Speaking on this occasion, Ramesh S. Ramakrishnan, Chairman of Transworld Group said "The Year 2020 - 2021 has been an iconic and distinctive year in the history of Human Civilization. Transformation, Evolution, and Resilience which humankind has demonstrated this year has been unprecedented". This month has been a historic milestone in the legacy of Transworld Group, as our strategic partnership with DP World and its subsidiary Unifeeder Group for the Feeder, Coastal, and Liner business. In the Year 2021 - 22, we look ahead with Positivity and Hope. The vaccination campaign which has commenced across the globe will bring in the much-awaited relief and normalcy. EXPO 2021 in Dubai will be a trigger of revival and accelerated growth, which will open up new vistas and opportunities in this region. When you have an intent, the path gets created. Visualizing strengthens the resolve, helping you create that path. Focus, determination, and learning are ways to achieve your dream, your future.



### COSCO opens new Wuhan terminal

COSCO Shipping Ports (CSP) has announced the launch of the operation of Wuhan Yangluo International Port Water-Rail Intermodal Container Transport Project (CSP Wuhan Terminal) on 1 August. On the day of the event, the new "COSCO SHIPPING Blue" cranes lined up and the 1,140TEU vessel Han Hai No.2 docked at No. 3 berth in the terminal operation area, fully loaded with cargo, while driverless container vehicle (DCV) made a debut. Additionally, the first batch of containers assembled in the terminal railway operation area. In the railway operation area of the terminal, a freight train with 50 containers headed to destination from the "Wuhan Port Station", where water transportation and railway transportation were seamlessly connected. The whole process was completed in one go, according to a statement, as the port became automated and intelligent from horizontal transport to vertical loading and unloading.

### Priority berthing for Colombo bound ships stops

The Chittagong Port Authority has stopped providing priority berthing to Chittagong-Colombo vessels after export container backlog eased at off docks. The shipping agents of Chittagong-Malaysia and Chittagong-Singapore routes also made the appeal to stop the priority berthing as their vessels were waiting long days to get berthing. Now the vessels of Chittagong-Malaysia and Chittagong-Singapore routes are getting berthing in time, at best in three to four days after coming to outer anchorage, compared to six or seven days during the last two weeks or more. The number of containers at port yards now started going down freeing space there thus vessels also not standing in jetties for five to six days to unload and load boxes rather now leaving within three days which is normal time consumption. The number of export laden containers at off docks has also gone down to 5,573TEU on 5 August, from a record high of over 16,000TEU a few weeks back. The queue of trucks at the off docks gates also lessened significantly.