



Adani wins right to operate Israel's largest port

A consortium of Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd (APSEZ) and Israel's Gadot Group has won the tender to privatise the Port of Haifa, the second largest port in Israel, amidst stiff competition from local and global players. Through the winning bid, the Adani-Gadot consortium has secured the rights to buy 100% shares of Haifa Port Company Ltd. The concession period of the Port of Haifa remains up to 2054. Needless to say, we are delighted to win the privatisation tender of the Port of Haifa and this is one of the many steps we are taking to transform APSEZ into a global transport utility that will include logistics and warehousing," said Mr Karan Adani, Wholtime Director & CEO, APSEZ. "This win is strategic for us from several dimensions. It gives us a much larger presence in Israel, one of India's most strategic partners, with whom the Adani Group has been working for six long years to build a network of relationships across several industries. In the short term, we look forward to developing strategic trade lanes between our ports in India and Haifa and help facilitate trade between the two countries, diversifying the port cargo as well as leveraging our expertise to increase the operational efficiencies.

Pact signed to develop container freight station and logistics complex in Sohar Port

Sohar Port and Freezone has partnered with Arkan Sohar Logistics to develop a port-based Container Freight Station (CFS) and logistics complex that will occupy 26,000 m2. Through this agreement, Arkan Sohar Logistics will offer bonded and non-bonded facilities, ambient and covered storage, as well as temperature-controlled, dry, chilled and frozen storage facilities. These facilities will also provide value-added services such as cross stuffing for import, re-export and transshipment cargo, lashing, crating, staging, labelling, repacking, kitting, and order processing. An Oman-based company, Arkan Sohar Logistics has become one of the fastest-growing logistics service providers in the region with a total investment of approximately OMR 2.7 million. The CFS will allow importers and exporters using Sohar Port to securely store goods and products for consolidation and expedited shipping. Arkan Sohar Logistics' CFS services have become a landmark success for the company, offering state-of-the-art customs-bonded areas for cargo, a racked warehouse facility and custom-built dock levellers to facilitate easy access to trailers for safe and efficient loading and unloading.

King Abdullah Port turns the tide to resolve global supply chain crisis

As global supply chain companies are finding ways to tackle the worst maritime congestions, the world's most efficient port is emerging as a safe harbor to unclog the worldwide logistics pressures. King Abdullah Port recently reached a milestone of handling 15 million twenty-foot-equivalent in a record time of under nine years since its container terminal operations began. The milestone follows a 31 percent rise in container throughput in 2021. "We attribute these to our state-of-the-art infrastructure and facilities built to global standards, as well as our highly efficient public-private partnership business model," said Jay New, CEO of KAP. Established in 2010, KAP is the first privately owned and operated port in the Middle East and is the flagship project of Ports Development Co. PDC is a joint venture between Emaar Economic City and Huta Marine Works Ltd. — two of the largest infrastructure developers in the Middle East. "PDC's decision to introduce this concept did not come easy as it was challenging to convince stakeholders, many of whom were unfamiliar with this business model. The process of simultaneously developing and operating was equally demanding," said New.

Maiden trial of Russia rail shipment via INSTC reaches India

The maiden trial rail shipment between Russia and India via Iran completed its journey reaching Mumbai last week. While the maiden journey comes to an end, it embarks a starting point of a broader development process along the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) that includes more rail route variations and some trains already dispatched. The Russia-India intermodal shipment which connected St. Petersburg with Mumbai, departed carrying two 40-foot containers with wood laminate sheets heading to the Russian Caspian Sea port of Astrakhan. From there, it left to the Iranian Caspian Sea port of Anzali. After entering and crossing Iran by rail, cargo reached the Bandar Abbas port in the Persian Gulf and departed for the West Indian coast, reaching Mumbai. This first-of-a-kind intermodal train run between St. Petersburg-Mumbai introduced Iran transport to the multimodal route via the Caspian Sea and strengthened Iran's transport and transit role. When welcoming the train, Iran's First Vice President Mohammad Mokhber mentioned that his country is looking forward to developing more such services and embracing the INSTC route, which can redefine its position on international transport maps.

Patenga box terminal to start operation

The much-expected Patenga Container Terminal in Chittagong will come into operation in a week time by handling geared and bulk ships. The 500,000 TEU terminal having the capacity to handle 10.5-meter depth vessels will enhance Chittagong port's capacity significantly when comes online on 21 July. With Patenga beginning operation, the Chittagong port is getting a new terminal after 15 years when the New Mooring Container Terminal came into operation. Officials say that before appointing an operator, mainly geared vessels will get berthing at the terminal which will be operated by the port authority by adding some of its equipment to handle bulk ships. The terminal will be operated by a foreign operator, as decided by the government, as for the first time Bangladesh is opening its port sector to foreign operators. Once an operator is appointed, it will bring the required equipment to run the terminal. Denmark-based Maersk Line, UAE-based DP World, Indian Adani Ports, and Saudi Arabian Red Sea Gateway are vying to get the contract to operate the terminal. Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) chairman, Rear Admiral M Shahjahan after visiting the terminal on 13 July told newsmen all preparations are taken to inaugurate the operation of the terminal.

Saudi ports achieve 5.5% box volume growth in June

The number of containers in Saudi Arabian ports in June increased by 5.5% and reached 642,300 TEU compared to 608,800 TEU recorded in the same month last year. At the same time, the transshipment sector saw a growth of 4.2% with a total of 244,600 TEU. Saudi Arabian ports have also recorded a 16.1% increase in cargo handling volume reaching 27.1 million tonnes, compared to 23.4 million tonnes recorded in June 2021. Additionally, the development plans launched by the Saudi Ports Authority (Mawani) to enhance the operational efficiency and upgrade ports' capabilities resulted in a 55.7% increase in general cargo volumes to reach 790,500 tons, whereas the liquid bulk cargo increased by 31.8% to reach 15.5 million tons, while the dry bulk cargo decreased by 6.9% with a total of 3.9 million tons. Finally, the ports of Saudi Arabia recorded a year on year 13.6% increase in the number of ships with a total of 1,126 ships in June.

UAE To Invest \$2bn In Indian Food Parks

The United Arab Emirates has pledged \$2 billion to help develop a series of "food parks" in India to tackle food insecurity in South Asia and the Middle East, a joint statement said. Speaking in Jerusalem at a virtual summit with UAE, Israeli and Indian leaders, U.S. President Joe Biden said the investment could "increase India's food yields in the region three-fold in just five years". The parks would bring farmers, processors and retailers together using advanced climate technology to minimise waste, conserve water and maximise crop yields, focusing at first on crops including potatoes, rice and onions. The four countries would also advance renewable energy projects in India, including wind and solar energy plants, they said. The projects would be supported by the Israeli and U.S. private sectors, Biden said at the summit on food security and clean energy amid fears of global food shortages caused by the war in Ukraine. Russia and Ukraine are the world's third and fourth largest grain exporters, respectively, while Russia is also a key fuel and fertiliser exporter. The war has disrupted their exports, pushed world food prices to record levels and triggered protests in developing countries already contending with elevated food prices due to COVID-related supply chain disruptions.