



CLIPPINGS

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Sri Lanka Ports Authority

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Sri Lanka, Japan, India to finalise specific terms to develop ECT



A model of the East Container Terminal. (Pic: Courtesy portcom.slpa.lk)

Sri Lanka, Japan and India will soon finalise the specific terms to jointly develop the East Container Terminal (ECT) of the Colombo Port. The representatives of the three countries last week signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) to jointly develop the ECT.

“The three governments will work out details based on the MOC at joint working group meetings, and advance their cooperation towards early commencement of work and operation of the ECT”

velop the Jaya Container Terminal since the 1980s. Around 70% of Colombo Port’s transshipment business is India-related. Sri Lanka, Japan and India will work together for further development of the Colombo Port and contribute to further regional prosperity and stability of global trading networks.

SLPA retains 100% ownership of East Container Terminal (ECT). The Terminal Operations Company (TOC) conducting all East Container Terminal operations is

Meanwhile, Japan has agreed to provide a loan at the interest rate of 0.1% interest rate and a repayment period of 40 years with another 10 years of grace period. This is one of the best loan terms Sri Lanka has obtained, a Port Ministry official said.

As the Colombo port is increasingly becoming an integral part of global trade and the government aims to develop Sri Lanka’s shipping industry to go beyond being a container transshipment hub for

Newspaper – Sunday Island Date – 02-06-2019

Norwegian Ambassador visits Chinese funded Hambantota port

BY ZACKI JARRAS *Staff Writer*

Norwegian Ambassador T. J. L. Lanka, Thorbjørn Gasteig, ended his last finishing mission to the Southern Province last week, also visited the Hambantota International Port (HIP).

He was met by HIP's Chief Executive Officer, Ray Ran, who explained the opportunities that the port offered.

The HIP, which began operations in November 2015, incurred heavy losses, making debt repayment difficult, until it started making profits in 2016. In July 2017 the government reached an agreement to lease 70 percent of the port to the Chinese firm, China Merchants Ports Holding Co.

Later, it was decided that under the agreement, CSFarts will divert 20 percent of its shares to Sri Lanka Ports Authority within 16 years. In July 2018, the government announced that the naval base in Colombo will be reassigned to the military. But it is yet unclear.

Ambassador Gunaratne's other aim was to bring leaders of the business community, civil society workers and Southern Province Governor Rajitha Kumara Therothunga, with whom he discussed the recent tragic accident and the political situation in Sri Lanka. He said that the CSFarts is working together to keep their communities safe," he observed, after discussing



Norwegian Ambassador to Sri Lanka, Thorbjørn Gustafsen (second from left) with the Chief Executive Officer of the Hambantota International Port, Ray Sen and other officials, during his visit to the facility last week.

He also visited a project resource center run by Women In Need, which receives funds from the Norwegian Embassy and supports victims of domestic and sexual violence.

The Ambassador heard about courageous work that the resource center did and also toured their paper-recycling workshop. The Center's staff group did a performance that also conveyed about social issues affecting women in particular.

US interests in the Indian Ocean Region:

Indo-Pacific declared America's priority theatre

The past few weeks have seen a heated debate taking place in Sri Lanka on signing military-related agreements with the United States of America. To assist Aerial and Cross-Sector Servicing Agreement (ACSA), signed between the US and Sri Lanka, in 2007, allowing US forces to utilise various facilities in Sri Lanka such as ports, airports, communication facilities, etc. and its renewal. In 2017, and the proposed Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) with the US have come in for much discussion with the Ven. Mahanayake and His Eminence Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith issuing a joint statement, last Thursday, on the need to exercise caution when entering into agreements with foreign powers. Against this backdrop, the US Defense Department issued its Indo-Pacific Strategy Report with the title, *Preparedness, Partnership, and Promoting a Networked Region*, last Saturday (2 June). With both being so close to the end of the report, which will be of interest to Sri Lankan readers.

The message from Acting Secretary of Defense Patrick M. Shanahan is that report stated the following:

The Indo-Pacific is the Department of Defense's priority theater. The United States is a Pacific nation; we are linked to our Indo-Pacific neighbors through unbreakable bonds of shared history, culture, commerce, and values. We have an enduring commitment to uphold a free and open Indo-Pacific in which all nations, large and small, are secure in their sovereignty and able to pursue economic growth consistent with accepted international rules, norms, and principles of fair competition. The continuity of our shared strategic vision is unimpaired despite an increasingly complex security environment. Inter-state strategic competition, defined by geopolitical rivalry between free and repressive world order visions, is the primary concern for U.S. national security. In particular, the People's Republic of China's leadership of the Chinese Communist Party seeks to render the region to its advantage by leveraging military modernization, influence operations, and predatory economics to co-opt other nations.

In contrast, the Department of Defense supports policies that promote long-term peace and prosperity for all in the Indo-Pacific. We will not accept policies or actions that threaten or undermine the rules-based international order — an order that benefits all nations. We are committed to defending and enhancing these shared values. The National Security Strategy and the National Defense Strategy articulate our vision to compete, deter, and win in this environment. Achieving this vision requires consolidating a more lethal joint force with a more robust constellation of Allies and partners, increased investments in those innovations will sustain American influence in the region to ensure favorable balances of power and safeguard the free and open international order.

Achieving peace through strength and employing

effective deterrence requires a Joint Force that is prepared to win any conflict from its onset. The Department, alongside our Allies and partners, will ensure our combat-credible forces are forward-postured in the region. Furthermore, the Joint Force will prioritize investments that ensure lethality against high-end adversaries. Our unique network of Allies and partners is a force multiplier to achieve peace, deterrence, and interoperable warfighting capability. The Department is reinforcing its commitment to established Alliances and Partnerships, while also expanding and deepening relationships with new partners who share our respect for sov-

ports are in the region, and 60 percent of global maritime trade transits through Asia, with roughly one-third of global shipping passing through the South China Sea alone.

America's annual two-way trade with the region is \$2.3 trillion, with U.S. foreign direct investment of \$1.3 trillion in the region - more than China's, Japan's, and South Korea's combined. The Indo-Pacific contributes two-thirds of global growth in gross domestic product (GDP) and accounts for 60 percent of global GDP. This region includes the world's largest economies - the United States, China, and Japan - and six of the world's fastest growing



The aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan sails in waters off Okinawa, alongside a refueling ship.

equity, fair and reciprocal trade, and the rule of law. The Department is strengthening and evolving U.S. alliances and partnerships into a networked security architecture to uphold the international rules-based order. The Department also continues to cultivate intra-Asian security relationships capable of deterring aggression, maintaining stability and ensuring free access to common domains. Advancing this Indo-Pacific vision requires an integrated effort that recognizes the critical linkages between economics, governance, and security—all fundamental components that shape the region's competitive landscape.

The body of the report states as follows: The Indo-Pacific is the single most consequential region for America's future. Spanning a vast stretch of the globe from the west coast of the United States to the western shores of India, inside the Indo-Pacific is the most populous state, most populous democracy, and largest Muslim majority state, and includes over half of the earth's population. Among the 10 largest standing armies in the world, 7 reside in the Indo-Pacific; and 5 countries in the region possess nuclear weapons. Nine of the world's 10 busiest sea

economies - India, Cambodia, Laos, Burma, Nepal, and the Philippines. A quarter of U.S. exports go to the Indo-Pacific, and exports to China and India have more than doubled over the past decade. This is made possible by free and open trade routes through the air, sea, land, space, and cyber commons that form the current global system.

Our ties in the Indo-Pacific are forged by history and our future is inextricably linked. We have contributed both blood and treasure to sustain the freedoms, openness, and opportunity of this region. Our presence secures the vital sea lanes of the Indo-Pacific that underpin global commerce and prosperity. Our leaders, diplomats, military forces, and businesses helped frame and strengthen the international system of clear and transparent rules; peaceful resolution of disputes; and the rule of law that has been vital to the region's relative security and growth.

As history has demonstrated and the future necessitates, the United States will continue to play a key role as a force for regional stability in the Indo-Pacific in support of U.S. diplomatic and economic aspirations. To do so, the United States must be prepared by sustaining a credible combat force

posture, strengthening alliances and building new partnerships; and promoting an increasingly networked region. These actions will enable the United States to preserve a free and open Indo Pacific where sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity are undisputed.

In 2017, President Trump announced our nation's vision for a free and open Indo-Pacific at the APEC Summit in Vietnam, and our commitment to a safe, secure, prosperous, and free region that benefits all nations. This vision flows from common principles that underpin the current international order which has benefited all countries in the region – principles we have a shared responsibility to uphold:

Our vision for a free Indo-Pacific is one in which all nations, regardless of size, are able to exercise their sovereignty free from coercion by other countries. At the national level, this means good governance and the assurance that citizens can enjoy their fundamental rights and liberties. Our vision for an open Indo-Pacific is one that promotes sustainable growth and connectivity in the region. This means all nations enjoy access to international waters, airways, and other open space domains, and are able to pursue peaceful resolution of maritime and maritime disputes. On an economic level, this means fair and reciprocal trade, open investment environments, and transparent agreements between nations.

Our vision for a new and open Indo-Pacific recognizes the linkages between economics, governance, and security that are part of the competitive landscape throughout the region, and that economic security is national security. In order to achieve this vision, we will uphold the rule of law, encourage resilience in civil society and promote transparent governance – all of which expose malign influences that threaten economic development everywhere. Our vision aspires to a regional order in which independent nations can both defend their interests and compete fairly in the international marketplace. It is a vision which recognizes that no one nation can or should dominate the Indo-Pacific. In recognition of the region's need for greater investment, including in infrastructure investment, the United States is committed to increasing trade development and financing institutions to enable us to become better, more resilient partners.

While we unapologetically represent U.S. values and beliefs, we do not seek to impose our way of life on others. As the region grows in population and economic weight, U.S. strategy will adapt to ensure that the Indo-Pacific is increasingly a place of peace, stability and growing prosperity — and not one of disorder, conflict, and predatory economies. Embedding these goals and imperatives in U.S. strategy requires efforts across the spectrum of our agencies and capabilities: diplomatic initiatives, governance capacity building, economic cooperation and commercial advocacy, and military cooperation.

(To be continued tomorrow)

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Sri Lanka's Ports and Logistics players at Transport Logistics Fair in Munich



Sri Lankan delegation comprises of logistics service providers such as Hayleys Advantis, MAC Holdings, Abans Logistics and IT solutions providers for logistics such as Geoid Information Technologies, Kingslake and EC Holdings.

Sri Lanka Export Development Board has organized the Sri Lanka Pavilion at the Transport and Logistics fair in Munich from 4-7 June 2019 to showcase Sri Lanka's expertise in efficient cargo handling and its further potential as a logistics hub.

National Export Strategy (NES) of Sri Lanka, under the aegis of the Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade (MoDSIT) and the Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB), who together with the Ports and Shipping Ministry and Sri Lanka Ports Authority are in the vanguard of the efforts to position Sri Lanka as the Indian Ocean's preeminent logistics,

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Sri Lanka's Ports ...

and distribution hub providing all services and facilities for integrated connectivity, beyond transshipment.

Given Sri Lanka's strategic geographic location along the main east-west sea route in the Indian Ocean, at the crossroads of the fastest growing region of the world with proximity to many emerging markets, the Country is ideally positioned as a very viable hub in the South Asian Region. Underpinning Sri Lanka's attractiveness as a hub, the Port of Colombo is globally recognized among the top dozen 'best connected' container ports worldwide, with all major container shipping lines using it as the primary regional hub for transshipment to and from the sub-continent.

In this backdrop and given its eminence as global center of innovation and production excellence for high quality garments, Sri Lanka presents a unique proposition for further development into a world-class logistics hub, linking global supply chains with a new generation of

consumers in the fastest growing economies.

The Port of Colombo (PoC), listed by Alphaliner as the fastest growing port among the top 30 container ports in the world, comprises of three world class terminal operators. The Jaya Container Terminal (JCT) owned by the Sri Lanka Ports Authority, South Asia Gateway Terminals (SAGT), Sri Lanka's first public private partnership port infrastructure project led by a consortium comprising of the John Keells Group in Sri Lanka, the AP Moller Maersk Group of Denmark and Evergreen Marine Corporation of Taiwan; and Colombo International Container Terminals (CICT), the region's first and to date, only deep-water container terminal equipped to handle Ultra Large Container Vessels, which is also a public private partnership owned by the China Merchant Port Holdings Group will all be present and showcasing the Port of Colombo at the fair.

In addition, the Sri Lankan delegation

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comprises of logistics service providers such as Hayleys Advantis, MAC Holdings, Abans Logistics and IT solutions providers for logistics such as Geoid Information Technologies, Kingslake and EC Holdings.

Hayleys Advantis, is the holding company of the transportation and logistics interests of Hayleys Group, Sri Lanka's number 1 listed corporate. Counting over 60 years of expertise in the transportation and logistics industry, Hayleys Advantis offers freight, shipping, 3PL, warehousing, inland container depot services, project logistics, free zone logistics, distribution management, marine and ship operations, with its operations spread across Asia and the Middle East.

Abans Logistics (Pvt) Ltd is a member of Abans Group which is a Sri Lanka based conglomerate with diverse business interest. Their services range from Freight Forwarding, Yard Operations (CFS), Warehousing, Outsourcing CIP/L and 4PL to transport and distribution.

Newspaper – Sunday Times Date – 02-06-2019

Japan lends US\$ 500mn for 2nd phase of East Container Terminal

As part of the agreement to be signed for the East Container Terminal (ECT) at the Colombo Port, Japan will lend US\$ 500mn at an interest rate of 0.1% to Sri Lanka to

complete the second phase of the facility, which includes an 800m berth.

The money will also go towards buying equipment to make the terminal functional.

The first phase of ECT (around 500m of berth) was built with a US\$ 80mn loan from the Bank of Ceylon. The Japanese loan will be repayable in 40 years with a grace period of 10 years.

Sri Lanka, Japan and India entered into the memorandum of cooperation to develop the ECT on May 28, 2018. Sri Lanka will retain 100% ownership of the terminal with operations

being carried out by a joint venture company.

The Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) will hold the majority stake in this company with 51 percent. Japan and

India will have a 49%. India will be a minority shareholder. The breakdown is yet to be decided.

Over 70% of the business of Colombo Port is transshipment to India.

Newspaper – Sunday Morning Date – 02-06-2019

3 Agreement signed for Japan and India to develop East Container Terminal

The Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) among the Governments of Sri Lanka, Japan, and India on the development of the East Container Terminal (ECT) located in the Colombo South Port was signed in Colombo on Tuesday, 28 May.

Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Southern Development, in a press release, stated that the Colombo Port is the leading port in the region, and as a hub of the Indian Ocean, the development of Sri Lanka and the openness of its ports are of great importance.

"This joint project reflects the longstanding goodwill and cooperation among the three countries," it stated.

Japan has provided cooperation for the development of the Jaya Container Terminal since the 1980s and around 70% of Colombo Port's transshipment business is India-related. Sri Lanka, Japan, and India will work together



for the further development of the Colombo Port, and contribute to further regional prosperity and stability of global trading networks.

Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) retains 100% ownership of the East Container Terminal (ECT) while the Terminal Operations Company (TOC) conducting all East Container Terminal operations is jointly owned, with Sri Lanka retaining a 51% stake and the joint venture partners purchasing a 49% stake.

The Ministry stated that the

envisaged Japanese loan carries one of the best loan terms Sri Lanka has obtained and that the 51% stake is also one of the best in SLPA's joint ownership endeavours. It added that SLPA's majority ownership in the new TOC represents a significant step in prioritising national interests.

The three Governments will now work on details based on the MOC at joint working group meetings, and advance their cooperation towards the early commencement of work and operation of the ECT.

කොළඹ වරාය සංවර්ධනයට ජපානයේ සහ ඉන්දියාවේ සහාය

වත්දීමා එදිරිමාත්ත

දකුණු කොළඹ වරායේ පිහිටි නැගෙනහිර බහාලු පර්යන්තය සංවර්ධනය වෙනුවෙන් ශ්‍රී ලංකාව ජපානය සහ ඉන්දීය රාජ්‍යයන් අතර සහයෝගීතා ගිවිසුමට පසුගිය දා කොළඹ දී අත්සන් තැබීණි.

ඉන්දියා සාගරයේ කේන්ද්‍රස්ථානයක් වන ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ සංවර්ධනය සහ එහි වරාය විවෘත වීම ඉතාම වැදගත් කරුණකි. එම ව්‍යාපෘතිය ආරාධනා ක්‍රීත්වය අතර පවත්වාගෙන ආ දිගුකාලීන සම්බන්ධතා සහ සහයෝගීත්වය මෙතෙහි කරනු ලබයි. ජපානය එක්දහස් නවසිය අසූව දශකයේ සිට කොළඹ වරායේ ජයබහලු පර්යන්තය සංවර්ධනය සඳහා සහයෝගය ලබාදන්නේය. එසේම කොළඹ වරායේ ප්‍රතිනැව්ගත කිරීමේදී සියයට හත්තැවක් පමණ ඉන්දියාව සම්බන්ධව සිදු වේ. ඒ අනුව, කොළඹ වරායේ ඉදිරි සංවර්ධන කටයුතු සඳහා මෙන්ම කලාපීය සෞභාග්‍යය සහ ගෝලීය වෙළෙඳ ජාලය තුළ කොළඹ වරායේ ස්ථායීතාව පවත්වා ගැනීම සඳහා ශ්‍රී ලංකා රජය සමඟ ඉන්දියාව සහ ජපානය එක්ව කටයුතු කරනු ඇත.

නැගෙනහිර පර්යන්තයේ සම්පූර්ණ අයිතිය ශ්‍රී ලංකා වරාය අධිකාරිය සතු වේ. එසේම, යෝජිත පර්යන්ත මෙහෙයුම් සමාගම විසින් සිදු කරන සියලු මෙහෙයුම්වලින් සියයට පනස් එකක කොටස් ශ්‍රී ලංකාව සතු වන අතර හවුල් පාර්ශවයන්ට තබා ගතහැකි කොටස්



ප්‍රමාණය සියයට හතළිස් නවයකි. එසේම ඒ සඳහා ලබාගැනීමට අදහස් කරන ජපාන ණය, ශ්‍රී ලංකාවට මෙතෙක් ලැබුණු යහපත්ම ණය කොන්දේසි යටතේ ලැබී තිබේ.

එසේම සියයට පනස් එකක කොටස් ප්‍රමාණයක් ශ්‍රී ලංකා වරාය අධිකාරියට හිමි වීම ඉතාම හොඳ හවුල් ගනුදෙනුවලින් එකකි. පර්යන්ත මෙහෙයුම් සමාගමේ අයිතියෙන් වැඩි ප්‍රමාණයක් ශ්‍රී ලංකා වරාය අධිකාරියට හිමි වීම අදාළ ගිවිසුමෙන් ජාතික අවශ්‍යතාවලට ලබා දී ඇති මූලිකත්වය මනාව පිළිබිඹු කරයි. එකාබද්ධ ක්‍රියාකාරී කණ්ඩායම රැස්වී අත්සන් කරනු ලැබූ සහයෝගීතා ගිවිසුම අනුව රාජ්‍යයන් ත්‍රිත්වයම එක්වී ඉදිරි කටයුතු සිදුකොට නැගෙනහිර පර්යන්තයේ මෙහෙයුම් හැකි වහාම ආරම්භ කිරීමට බලාපොරොත්තු වෙයි.

පුවත්පත - අද දිනය - 2019-06-03

ත්‍රිකුණාමලය වරාය ඉඩම් තුළ යකඩ කර්මාන්ත ශාලාවක් ඉදිකරන්නේ හැ

- අමාත්‍ය සාගල රත්නායක

■ එච්.අයි.තුනර

ත්‍රිකුණාමලය වරාය ඉඩම් තුළ යකඩ කර්මාන්ත ශාලාවක් ඉදිකොමකරන බවත්, ඒ සඳහා විකල්ප ඉඩමක් හැන සොයාගන්න ලෙස වරාය අධිකාරිය සඳහන් කරන බවත් වරාය හා නාවික කටයුතු, දැක්ම හා සංවර්ධන අමාත්‍ය සාගල රත්නායක මහතා සඳහන් කරයි.

ත්‍රිකුණාමල ප්‍රදේශය පිළිබඳ රජය අධ්‍යයන කටයුතු රාශියක් සිදුකර තිබෙන බවත්, එහිදී මෙම ප්‍රදේශ සංචාරක

කර්මාන්තයටත් සැකැස්ම හා මධ්‍යම කර්මාන්තවලටත් ඒ ප්‍රදේශ හඳුනාගෙන තිබෙන බවත් ඒ මහතා පවසා සිටියේය.

මේ අනුව පරිසර හිතකාමී සංචාරක කර්මාන්තය ඒ ප්‍රදේශය ආශ්‍රිතව ආරම්භ කරන බවත්, එවැනි තත්ත්වයක් තුළ යකඩ කර්මාන්ත ශාලා ව්‍යාපෘතියකට වරායේ ඉඩමක්

ඉල්ලා තිබෙන බවත් හෙතෙම සඳහන් කර සිටියේය.

අදාළ විකල්පය ආයෝජන මණ්ඩලය කරනා පැමිණෙන බවත්, මේ නිසා ආයෝජන මණ්ඩලය හා වරාය අධිකාරී නිලධාරීන් අතර කෙටි සාකච්ඡාවක් පවත්වා තිබෙන අතර, එහිදී වරායේ ඉඩම් වරාය සංවර්ධනයට අවශ්‍ය බවට නිලධාරීන් පෙන්වාදී තිබෙන බවත් සාගල රත්නායක මහතා සඳහන් කළේය.



Newspaper – Daily FT Date – 04-06-2019

HIP responds to medical emergency on the high seas

■ Crew member brought to safety

HAMBANTOTA International Port (HIP) might be a relatively new destination on the world maritime map, but it is now becoming a safe haven for sailors in distress. Although Hambantota's maritime connections go back centuries, its transformation from a modest fisheries harbour into a modern multipurpose deep-water facility is fairly recent.

Not only is the port a prime destination for transshipment in the sub-continent, it is being positioned to take its place as a bunkering hub for South

Asia by the end of the year. Amongst the many milestones HIP has achieved to date, becoming a refuge during maritime emergencies is a new position.

The Hambantota International Port can a rescue operation recently, on a 20k vessel which was sailing from Rotterdam to Shanghai. The vessel contacted the port requesting help with a sick crew member and the team responded immediately. The pilot launch 'Ruhunu I' was dispatched without delay, and traveled 12 nautical miles to retrieve the crew member, who had fallen ill.

The 20,000 TEU contain-

er vessel COSCO Taurus came to the anchorage area, where the operation was handled by HIP. The patient was transferred from ship to launch, using the pilot hole and the gangway while an ambulance service was ready to receive him, immediately upon arrival at the jetty. The sick crew member was transported to the Ruhunu Medi Hospital with utmost care.

Whilst this particular patient was treated at a private medical facility in Hambantota, the area also has a well-equipped hospital with facilities to handle any emergency situation. "This is an important facility which we have opened up



Container vessel COSCO Taurus calling at the anchorage area to dispatch patient

for ships' crews who might be faced with unexpected medical emergencies. The fact that we could send out our rescue teams to transfer them from the moving main

vessel to a launch and transport them to hospital in record time, makes another plus factor for HIP," says Hambantota International Port Services (HIPS) CEO

Ravi Jayawickrema.

The CEO says that the port intends positioning this service for crew members as well as making this facility known to interna-

tional shipping lines plying the sea lanes 160m away from HIP. "Close on 10,000 ships pass Hambantota every year so this would be an important rescue point in an emergency. Last year, a container ship Kota Laga carrying 2031 TEUs on board from Singapore, was sailing past Hambantota to Cape Town, South Africa when a container loaded with undeclared dangerous goods was discovered on board and had to make an unscheduled stop at the Hambantota Port, to restow its container cargo. Likewise medical emergencies are another facility we can easily offer to vessels passing us by as much as those calling in port."

Newspaper – The Island Date – 04-06-2019

HIP responds to medical emergency on the high seas; crew member brought to safety

Hambantota International Port (HIP) might be a relatively new destination on the world maritime map, but it is now becoming a safe haven for sailors in distress. Although Hambantota's maritime connections go back centuries, its transformation from a modest fisheries harbor into a modern multipurpose deep-water facility is fairly recent. Not only is the port a prime destination for transshipment in the subcontinent, but it is being positioned to take its place as a bunkering hub for South Asia by the end of the year. Amongst the many milestones HIP has achieved to date, becoming a refuge during maritime emergencies is a new position.

The Hambantota International Port ran a rescue operation recently, on a 20k vessel which was on a 10,000 mile journey, sailing from Rotterdam to Shanghai. The vessel contacted the port requesting help with a sick crew member and the team responded immediately. The pilot launch Ruhunu 1 was dispatched without delay, and travelled 12 nautical miles to retrieve the crew member, who had fallen ill. The 20,000 TEU container vessel COSCO Taurus came to the anchorage area, where the operation was handled by HIP. The patient was transferred from ship to launch, using the pilot boat and the gangway while an ambulance service was ready to receive him, immediately upon arrival at the jetty. The sick crew member was transported to the Ruhunu Medi Hospital

with utmost care.

Whilst this particular patient was treated at a private medical facility in Hambantota, the area also has a well-equipped hospital with facilities to handle any emergency situation. "This is an important facility which we have opened up for ships' crews who might be faced with unexpected medical emergencies. The fact that we could send out our rescue teams to transfer them from the moving main vessel to a launch and transport them to hospital in record time, makes another plus factor for HIP," says Ravi Jayawickrama, CEO of Hambantota International Port Services (HIPS).

The CEO says that the port intends positioning this service for crew members as well as making this facility known to international shipping lines plying the sea lanes from away from HIP. "Close on 30,000 ships pass Hambantota every year so this would be an important rescue point in an emergency. Last year a container ship Kota Lagu carrying 2851 TEUs on board from Singapore, was sailing past Hambantota to Cape Town, South Africa when a container loaded with undeclared dangerous goods was discovered on board and had to make an unscheduled stop at the Hambantota Port, to restow its container cargo. Likewise medical emergencies are another facility we can easily offer to vessels passing us by as much as those calling in port."



Container vessel COSCO Taurus calling at the anchorage area to dispatch patient.

Newspaper – Ceylon FT Date – 05-06-2019

SL to accelerate Colombo Port development SLPA to start ECT operations with \$ 500-800M JBIC loan ECT final agreement within 3 months, plans to build WCT as well



(File photo) Signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation among Sri Lanka, Japan, and India on the Development of the Colombo South Port in Sri Lanka. Chairman of the Ports Authority, Kavan Ratnayaka is in the centre.

By ISHARA GAMAGE

The Government plans to conclude the Colombo Port East Container Terminal (ECT) development agreement with the Japanese and Indian Governments within the next three months, Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) Chairman, Kavan Ratnayaka told *Ceylon FT*.

He said that the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) is likely to provide SLPA with US\$ 500-800 million in the form of a 40-year soft loan with a 0.1 per cent interest rate and a 10-year grace period to commence the first track of the ECT operations.

The envisaged Japanese loan carries one of the best loan terms Sri Lanka has obtained, with which the SLPA hopes to commence the ECT's operations.

"The specific terms of the agreement to jointly develop the ECT will be finalised within next three months, depending on the success of the ongoing joint working group meetings; however, the

deal amount is yet to be finalized," he said on the sidelines of a press conference in Colombo yesterday.

"I can categorically assure you that there was no Indian or Sri Lankan political interference for these negotiations. We have to develop and expand our port capacity quickly, otherwise another port will grab our true business potential," he said.

He also said that depending on the success of the ECT project, the Government plans to develop the West Container Terminal (WCT) with a suitable partner to cater to the growing demand in regional port operations.

The Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) among the three governments of Sri Lanka, Japan and India on the development of the East Container Terminal (ECT) located in the Colombo South Port was signed in Colombo on Tuesday, 28 May 2019.

The three governments will work out details based on the

MOC at joint working group meetings, and advance their cooperation towards the early commencement of work and operation of the ECT.

According to the MOC, SLPA retains 100 per cent ownership of ECT.

The Terminal Operations Company (TOC) conducting all East Container Terminal operations is jointly-owned: Sri Lanka retains a 51 per cent stake, and the joint venture partners, including Japanese and Indian Government-nominated parties, will purchase a 49 per cent stake.

According to the SLPA Chairman, the 51 per cent stake is also one of the best in SLPA joint ownership endeavours. SLPA's majority ownership in the new TOC represents a significant step in prioritising National Interests, he said.

The lion's share of the minority stake (out of the remaining 49 per cent) of the TOC might remain with Japan, while India will be the smallest partner.

SLPA...

According to the SLPA, Japan has provided cooperation for the development of the Jaya Container Terminal since the 1980s. Around 70 per cent of Colombo Port's transshipment business is India-related.

"Therefore, it is a must to partner with Japan and India to develop the ECT," stated the SLPA Chairman.

He said that the Government is keen to position Sri Lanka as a logistics hub in the Indian Ocean. The role of SLPA and its partners are a key to that success.

SLPA currently has prepared a Port Master Plan to expedite the development of the country's port sector to further increase container volumes and capacity.

On par with SLPA's vision, request for proposals (RFP) are to be called for a logistics park at Bluemendhal area and for a distribution centre to the south of the Colombo Port area. The SLPA Chairman said this would enhance the facilities for multi-country consolidation (MCC) entrap cargo, cold storage and bonded storage.

According to him, a fully-fledged passenger terminal facility with walkways to guide tourists at the part of Colombo will be available by the end of this year to promote cruise tourism in Sri Lanka.

The Jaya Container Terminal's (JCT) 120m-extension will also be ready by mid-2020.

An LNG terminal facility is planned to provide LNG power to the vessels and to meet national demand.

The Colombo Port's container volumes recorded an increase in the month of April 2019 by 9.1 per cent, compared to the same period last year. Colombo Port, comprising Jaya Container Terminal (JCT), South Asia Gateway Terminal (SAGT) and the Colombo International Container Terminal (CICT), has seen a cumulative volume growth of 5.9 per cent for the first four months of this year.

See on page 7

Newspaper – Daily Mirror Date – 06-06-2019

Port tariff hike deferred until December

- SLPA says decided to postpone tariff revision to support economy after Easter attacks
- Says looking into refunding excess tariffs paid by shipping and logistics industry stakeholders
- Industry stakeholders urge govt. to address existing inefficiencies in port operations before revising tariffs

■ By Nishe! Fernando

The Sri Lanka Port Authority (SLPA) has deferred the proposed hike in port tariffs until December, to support the economy in the aftermath of Easter



Kavan Ratnayaka

Sunday attacks, SLPA Chairman Kavan Ratnayaka told Mirror Business.

“We will make a decision in December whether to increase port tariff or not; until then, the tariff structure prior to December 31, 2018 would be in place,” he said.

He noted that the committee, which was appointed to look into the issue on the request of industry stakeholders, has recommended the SLPA to postpone the tariff hike.

The SLPA substantially raised its port charges and other related tariffs effective from January 1, 2019, based on a Cabinet decision taken during the 51-day government.

However, following the industry objections, the tariff hike, which was in effect for about a month, was suspended by the SLPA for a period of three months.

They also urged the government to refund the excess tariffs they already paid during the period from January 1, 2019 to February 7, 2019, where the new tariffs were implemented. Ratnayaka remarked that the SLPA would be looking into refunding these payments in near future.

MORE ON P2

Port tariff...

It was alleged that the upward tariff revision of port services was implemented without consulting exporters, importers and other relevant stakeholders.

The industry stakeholders also stressed the need to address the existing inefficiencies in port operations, in order to make Sri Lanka more competitive and the disruption to the existing contracts, before moving ahead with an upward tariff revision.

In a recent statement, Sri Lanka's Export Development Board also warned that the proposed tariff hike could hamper the country's export targets and the current export growth momentum, while potentially jeopardising the implementation of the key export strategies such as the National Export Strategy, which are vital in transforming the country's economy to an export-driven economy.

වරාය සංවර්ධනයට තුන් රටක සහයෝගීතා ගිවිසුමක්

බ්‍රිතාන් පතිරත් පයසුරිය

කොළඹ දකුණු වරායේ පිහිටි නැගෙනහිර බහලු පර්යන්තය සංවර්ධනය වෙනුවෙන් ශ්‍රී ලංකාව, ජපානය සහ ඉන්දිය රාජ්‍යයන් අතර සහයෝගීතා ගිවිසුමට පසුගියදා කොළඹදී අත්සන් තැබීය.

මෙම ගිවිසුම යටතේ නැගෙනහිර බහලුම් පර්යන්තයේ හිමිකාරිත්වය සියයට සියයක්ම ශ්‍රී ලංකා වරාය අධිකාරිය සතුවන අතර එහි මෙහෙයුම් කටයුතු ඒකාබද්ධව සිදුකෙරේ. එහි ශ්‍රී ලංකාව සතු හිමිකාරිත්වය 51%ක් වේ. ඉතිරි 49%ක කොටස් ප්‍රමාණය හවුල් පාර්ශ්වයන්ට මිලදී ගත හැකි වනු ඇත. මෙහි සංවර්ධන කටයුතු සඳහා ජපන් රජය විසින් සහන ණය මුදලක් ලබාදීමට නියමිත අතර එය මෙරට ඉතිහාසයේ ජපානයෙන් ලබාගන්නා හොඳම ණය කොන්දේසි යටතේ ලබා ගන්නා ණය මුදල වේ. මෙම ගිවිසුම අත්සන් කිරීම සඳහා අග්‍රාමාත්‍ය කාර්යමණ්ඩල ප්‍රධානී, වරාය නාවික කටයුතු සහ දක්ෂිණ සංවර්ධන අමාත්‍ය සාගල රත්නායක මහතාත් මෙරට ඉන්දිය මහ කොමසාරිස්වරයාත්, මෙරට ජපාන තානාපතිවරයාත් එක්ව සිටියහ.

Newspaper – Daily Mirror Date – 08-06-2019

“TRANSPORT LOGISTIC 2019” Sagala in Germany to promote Lankan ports and logistics sector

Ports and Shipping Minister Sagala Ratnayaka met with German Minister of Transport Andreas Scheuer, Parliamentary State Secretary Steffen Bilger and key decision makers of German businesses at the world's top logistic event “TRANSPORT LOGISTIC 2019” from June 4–7 in Munich, to promote Sri Lankan ports and logistics sector, a statement said.

High-ranking representatives of the Sri Lankan Port Authority, SAGT, CICT, HIPG and logistic service providers Hayleys Advantis, Mac Holdings and Abans logistics, as well as specialized IT solutions providers such as Kingslake, GEOID and E.C. Holding exhibited at the pavilion and the 1st Sri Lankan pavilion at the Transport Logistic fair was officially opened by Minister Sagala Ratnayaka, Minister of Ports & Shipping and Southern Development and Mr. Steffen Bilger, Parliamentary State Secretary of Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure.

The Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka (AHK Sri Lanka) organized

individual meetings for the Sri Lankan delegation with decision makers of Germany's



leading logistic and engineering companies such as DHL, Hapag Lloyd, Siemens, Hamburg Port Consulting, Kuehne + Nagel, DB Schenker and Hellmann to enhance future business opportunities.

Transport Logistic 2019 is the world's leading trade fair for logistics, mobility, IT, and supply chain management has been taking place in Munich since 1978. It's an international trade fair where 2,162 exhibitors from 62 countries and regions, 60,726 visitors from 123 countries and regions comes under one roof covering more than 115,000 m² of exhibition space across nine halls.

Mr. Andreas Hergenroether, the Chief Delegate of AHK Sri Lanka stated that participating at the world's leading logistics fair is an ideal avenue for Sri Lanka to promote the country's strategic geographic location along the main east-west sea route in the Indian Ocean and to develop the Port of Colombo as a logistics, and distribution hub providing all services and facilities for integrated connectivity, beyond transshipment. Furthermore Mr. Hergenroether also mentioned that the individual meetings with Germany's leading logistic and engineering companies is a great opportunity for the Sri Lankan delegation to enhance know-how and technology transfer in the logistics sector and this is a platform on which to build the relationship between Germany and Sri Lanka.

Newspaper – The Island Date – 08-06-2019

Sri Lanka showcases logistics sector at world's leading fair in Munich

BY SANATH NANAYAKKARE

Sri Lanka's leading companies were promoting the country at the world's leading logistics fair in Munich, Germany (June 4-7) as a strategic geographic location for the global logistics industry along the main east-west sea route in the Indian Ocean.

This is being done with a view to developing the Port of Colombo as a logistics and distribution hub providing all services and facilities for integrated connectivity, beyond transshipment.

High-ranking representatives of the Sri Lankan Port Authority, SAGT, CICT, HIPG and logistics service providers Hayleys Advantis, Mac Holdings and Abans logistics, as well as specialized IT solutions providers such as Kingslake, GEOID and E.C. Holding exhibited at the pavilion and the 1st Sri Lankan pavilion at the Transport Logistic Fair was officially opened by Sagala Ratnayaka, Minister of Ports and Shipping and Southern Development and Steffen Bilger, Parliamentary State Secretary of Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure.

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Minister Sagala Ratnayaka meets German Minister of Transport Andreas Scheuer, Parliamentary State Secretary Steffen Bilger and key decision makers of German businesses at the world's top logistic event "TRANSPORT LOGISTIC 2019" to promote Sri Lankan ports and logistic sector.

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ඉන්ටර්නැෂනල් ලොජිස්ටික්ස් සමුළුව මෙවර ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ

ඉතෝකා සෙරේරා

ශ්‍රී ලංකාව, ප්‍රතිඥාපනතකට එකඟ විය ලෝක වෙළෙඳ මධ්‍යස්ථානයක් බවට පත් කිරීමට අවසර, සාධන නොවනුයේ අරමුණු ඇතිව කලමිලි ඉන්ටර්නැෂනල් ලොජිස්ටික්ස් සමුළුව මෙවර ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ පැවැත්වීමට කටයුතු සලසා ඇත. මේ සඳහා ලොව ප්‍රමුඛ වෙළෙඳ ජාත්‍යන්තර නැව් සමාගම් සියල්ල පාහේ ලිඛිත අභ්‍යන්තර කොළයට පැමිණීමට නියමිතය.

දකුණු ආසියාවේ සිවිල් රාජ්‍ය නැව් හරහා ආර්ථික වාසි ලබා කර ගැනීමට සමත් ක්‍රියා-කාර්යය, කොළඹ, හම්පත්තොට වැනි වරායන් ශ්‍රී ලංකාව සතුටු සිතියදී, ඒවායින් උසස්ම වල

තවමත් තෙලා නොගැනීම රටට විශාල පාඩු-පත් වේ CIMC Events නිර්මාතෘ සභාපති සහ මිලින ඇතුළුව කලමිලි ප්‍රධාන ලිමිටර් හි CEO සෙරේරා මාසකෝරාල මහතා පැවසීය.

BOI හරහා, ජාත්‍යන්තර සමාගම් ශ්‍රී ලංකාවට ගෙන්වා, සමුළුවේ විශේෂ ආකර්ෂණීය ප්‍රවෘත්ති

මෙරට ක්‍රියාත්මක කිරීමේ, ප්‍රතිඥාපනත සහ ලොජිස්ටික් යන අංශ දියුණු කිරීමේ කළ හැකි නම්, අපතයක සහ ඇහුණු යන අංශවලින් ලැබෙන ආදායමට වඩා දැවැන්ත ආදායමක් අප රටට උපයා ගත හැකි බව ඒ මහතා ප්‍රකාශ කළේය.

සඳහා රටවල් 200ක් සහභාගී වීම අපේක්ෂා කළ හමුත් රටේ පවතින තත්ත්වය අනුව එහි යම් වෙනසක් ඇතිවිය හැකිය. මෙම සමුළුවට සහභාගී වන සියලු ම රටවල් කොළඹ සහ හම්පත්තොට වරාය නිරීක්ෂණ වාර්තාවකට සහභාගී වීමට අවස්ථාවක් ලබාදීමට කටයුතු කරනු ලබයි.

ශ්‍රී ලංකා වරාය අධිකාරිය, සංචාරක මණ්ඩලය, ජාත්‍යන්තර තාණ්ඩු ප්‍රවාහනය හා සම්මන්ත්‍ර පුද්ගලික ආයතන සහ ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ ප්‍රධාන වරායන්, ආනයන සහ අපනයනකරුවන් යන සියලු වාර්ෂිකයන්ගේ එකමුතුවෙන් පැවැත්වෙන මෙවර සමුළුව හරහා ශ්‍රී ලංකාව ප්‍රවර්ධනය කිරීම, ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ වරායන් සිවිල් ලෝකයට දැනුම් දීම, ජාත්‍යන්තර තාණ්ඩු ප්‍රවාහනයේ ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ සිතියම ඇති වැදගත්ම වෙනස්වීම්, ඒ හරහා ජාත්‍යන්තර වෙළෙඳාම ශ්‍රී ලංකාව වෙත අද්දරා ගැනීම යන අරමුණු සාක්ෂාත් කර ගැනීමට අපේක්ෂා කරන බවද ඒ මහතා ප්‍රකාශ කළේය.

මාධ්‍යාලය විමල් කරුණාතිලක



Newspaper – Ceylon Today Date – 09-06-2019

Govt seeks investment from global logistics firms



Sri Lanka is having talks with some of the world's biggest logistics firms, like Germany's DB Schenker and Switzerland's Kuehne & Nagel, to try to get them to invest in the island, a senior port official said.

Sri Lanka Ports Authority Chairman Kavan Ratnayake said, logistics was a key part of the newly developed national Ports Master Plan which will help attract investors, needed to expand and modernise the sector.

See on page 11

Govt...

Minister of Ports & Shipping, Sagala Ratnayake held talks with top European-based global logistics firms during a visit to Germany this week.

"The Minister was in Munich with representatives from 26 logistics companies. He's talking to world-class companies like DB Schenker and Kuehne & Nagel to try to get them to invest here," Ratnayake said.

Germany's DB Schenker, the transport and logistics division of the Deutsche Bahn Group, already has a partnership with Aitken Spence Group, through which it is represented in Sri Lanka and the Maldives.

Swiss freight-forwarding group, Kuehne & Nagel International, whose sea freight is the largest part of the business, has offices in

Colombo and Katunayake, where the international airport is located.

Sri Lanka is trying to attract global logistics firms to set up headquarters and operations in the island which has newly developed port and airport infrastructure that remains underutilised. (*economunext*)

Newspaper – Ceylon Today Date – 09-06-2019



MS Europa 2

Aitken Spence Maritime facilitates first cruise ship

To call on Sri Lankan ports following April aftermath

The luxury cruise ship 'MS EUROPA 2', owned by German operator Hapag-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten Hamburg, recently called on the Ports of Hambantota and Colombo with 309 passengers and 356 crew onboard. Aitken Spence Maritime is the agent in Sri Lanka for Hapag-Lloyd which is one of the largest container shipping lines in the world. MS Europa and MS Europa 2 are the only cruise ships in the world classified with 5-star rating by the legendary Berlitz Cruise Guide. MS Europa 2 is regarded as the new jewel of the Hapag-Lloyd Cruises fleet.

"We are extremely delighted that Aitken Spence Maritime facilitated the first cruise ship to call on two Ports of Sri Lanka after the unfortunate incidents that took place in April 2019. It is also encouraging for the team to see their efforts materialise and with the Group's active involvement in the leisure industry, the company will continue to offer comprehensive synergised services to cruise

operators," said Iqram Cuttilan, Managing Director of Aitken Spence Maritime.

"Hapag-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten having made frequent calls to Trincomalee, Hambantota, Galle and Colombo will also include their ships in its schedule for 2019/20. In fact, Hapag-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten has selected Sri Lankan Ports as the beginning and end of their voyages, enabling passengers to embark and disembark in Sri Lanka," said Lalith Witanachchi, Assistant Vice President of Hapag-Lloyd Lanka.

Hapag-Lloyd's local agent, Aitken Spence Maritime, is a pioneer in the industry and was the first in Sri Lanka to undertake port efficiency enhancement management overseas with its entry into the African Continent and subsequently the South Pacific Islands. The company handles all areas of maritime services - from ship agents and cargo handlers, to liner agency, cruise vessel, port management and development, chartering services and maritime education.

Newspaper – Sunday Times Date – 09-06-2019

Hambantota Port responds to medical emergency on the high seas

The Hambantota International Port (HIP) ran a rescue operation recently, on a 20k vessel which was on a 10,000 mile journey, sailing from Rotterdam to Shanghai.

The vessel contacted the port requesting help with a sick crew member and the team responded immediately. The pilot launch Ruhunu 1 was dispatched without delay, and travelled 12 nautical miles to retrieve the crew member, who had fallen ill, the HIP said in a media release.

The 20,000 TEU container vessel COSCO Taurus came to the anchorage area, where the operation was handled by HIP. The patient was transferred from ship to launch, using the pilot hole and the gangway while an ambulance service was ready to receive him, immediately upon arrival at the jetty. The sick crew member was transported to the Ruhunu Medi Hospital with utmost care. Whilst this particular patient was

treated at a private medical facility in Hambantota, the area also has a well-equipped hospital with facilities to handle any emergency situation. "This is an important facility which we have opened up for ships' crews who might be faced with unexpected medical emergencies. The fact that we could send out our rescue teams to transfer them from the moving main vessel to a launch and transport them to hospital in record time, makes another plus factor for HIP," says Ravi Jayawickrema, CEO of Hambantota International Port Services (HIPS).

The CEO says that the port intends positioning this service for crew members as well as making this facility known to international shipping lines plying the sea lanes 16nm away from HIP. "Close on 30,000 ships pass Hambantota every year so this would be an important rescue point in an emergency.

Newspaper – Sunday Observer Date – 09-06-2019

Colombo International Logistics Conference on Aug 1 and 2

Master plan to boost ports' performance

— By —
**Lalin
Fernandopulle**



The Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) has great plans for the future and they will come into fruition with the implementation of the National Master Plan for ports in the country, SLPA Chairman Kavan Ratnayake told the media at the launch of the Colombo International Logistics Conference (CILC) last week.

He said the Colombo Port has been performing well recording the 22nd position in terms of volume and 11th in connectivity, globally.

"The implementation of the master plan will boost the performance of the port sector of the country which is recognised as a leading Port in the region," Ratnayake said.

Colombo International Maritime Conference (CIMC) Founder Chairman Rohan Masakorala said Sri Lanka has all the potential, resources and expertise to be the leading port in the region given the strategic location of the country.

"We must market this unique selling proposition and graduate from being a transshipment hub to a logistics hub. There has been ample discussion on this and now it's time for the stakeholders to play a proactive role putting aside the past," Masakorala said.

He said Sri Lanka is the only location which connects two major hubs, the Far-East and the Middle East within four days of sailing or four hours of flying. This advantage combined with the Indian sub-continent market gives an unprecedented advantage to reduce costs, deliver on time to markets and provide access to consumers.

"We do not have to go far to look for markets. We are next to a 1.3 billion market which can offer enormous opportunities for every sector to benefit," Masakorala said.

As South Asia's population and the middle-income group expand,



CIMC Founder Chairman Rohan Masakorala moderates the media briefing attended by industry experts. Pic: Wimal Karunatilake

demand for products for manufacturing and consumption is likely to triple or quadruple by 2050, making a huge demand for cost effective logistics services. The space in Sri Lanka is unmatched for logistics, with any other geographic location, to emerging markets.

However, port sector experts said 'Sri Lanka has missed many buses' since gaining independence and now regrets the blunders committed over the past 70 years. Short sighted policies aimed at gaining political mileage have brought ruin. The Easter Sunday carnage is proof of this. It is up to the people to decide before the next election whether they need a developed country similar to Singapore or an impoverished one.

"Many asked me not to hold the event or postpone it. I decided not to give in to terrorist. Come hell or high water we will go ahead with the event which is crucial at a time when the country needs such events to build confidence and market the location. We have got a committed team comprising experts in the industry and we are confident the first logistics conference will be a success," Masakorala said.

Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau Chairman Kishu Gomes said that seven countries have softened their travel advisories and that the number of arrivals is gradually picking up.

However, according to statistics tourist arrivals have dropped by around 70 percent since the Easter attacks.

"What is funny is that there have been visitors coming from countries that issue travel advisories," Gomes said. The number of arrival since April 21 from UK has been 3,297, Australia 2,484, Germany 2,168, France 2,015, USA 1,326 and China 1,762.

With regard to the PR and marketing campaigns Gomes said Cabinet approval has been granted for the two campaigns which will kick off soon with an investment of Rs. 420 million on the PR and Rs. 1.5 billion on the marketing campaign which will be carried out in 12 key markets.

Organisers of the conference said a large number of foreign participants have already confirmed their attendance. CIMC expects over 200 foreign participants for the event which will be held at the Galadari Hotel Colombo from August 1 to 2.

The event will be graced by 20 international speakers who will discuss modern trends in logistics. South Asia's logistics market and the emerging role of Sri Lanka as a global logistics centre.

The conference will be combined with Port visits, free trade zone visits, and optional tours, (the country was designated as the "top travel destination for 2019" by Lonely Planet travel Website, before the April 21st carnage).

The conference is organised by CIMC Events, which had two major conferences in Colombo on the maritime industry of Sri Lanka in 2015 & 2016, when over 400 delegates took part. CIMC Events have also conducted two international conferences in Mumbai, India and Dhaka, Bangladesh in 2017/2018 (South Asia Maritime and Logistics Forum).

Extensively developed for variety of purposes and connectivity. Colombo being the main container transshipment port is the only main South Asian port, close to the East-West shipping route and is well equipped for the 21st century mega container ships.

Newspaper – Daily FT Date – 10-06-2019



The cruise ship upon arrival at the Colombo Port – Pic by Ruwan Walpola

Aitken Spence Maritime facilitates 1st cruise ship to call at SL ports following April attacks

THE luxury cruise ship 'MS Europa 2', owned by German operator Hapag-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten Hamburg, recently called at the Ports of Hambantota and Colombo with 309 passengers and 356 crew onboard. Aitken Spence Maritime is the agent in Sri Lanka for Hapag-Lloyd which is one of the largest container shipping lines in the world. MS Europa and MS Europa 2 are the only cruise ships in the world classified with five-star rating by the legendary Berlitz Cruise Guide. MS Europa 2 is regarded as the new jewel of the Hapag-Lloyd Cruises fleet.

"We are extremely delighted that Aitken Spence Maritime facilitated the first cruise ship to call on two ports of Sri Lanka after the unfortunate incidents that took place in April 2019. It is also encouraging for the team to see their efforts materialise and with the Group's active involvement in the leisure industry, the company will continue to offer comprehensive synergised services to cruise oper-

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Newspaper – Daily FT Date – 10-06-2019

AMBITIOUS PLANS AFOOT TO TRANSFORM MARITIME SECTOR

PORTS, Shipping and Southern Development Minister Sagala Ratnayaka said in view of the country's recovery from the Easter Sunday explosions, the Government has embarked on ambitious plans to transform Sri Lanka into a vibrant maritime hub in the region.

Addressing the opening of the Sri Lanka Pavilion at the Transport Logistics Fair 2019 in Germany on Tuesday, Ratnayaka said the heads of our security forces had assured the Government that nearly 99% of these groups have been dismantled.

"The country is fast returning to normalcy. Businesses have begun to operate as usual and the tourism industry is seeing a recovery," he added.

"It is with this recovery in mind that we are striving to transform Sri Lanka into a maritime and logistics hub, tapping into the vast potential of our industry. Central to Sri Lanka's ambitious goal of becoming a vibrant maritime hub in the South Asian region is its strategic location along the main east-west sea route in the Indian Ocean, at the crossroads of the fastest growing region of the world, and in proximity to many emerging markets," the Minister added.

Ratnayaka also said, "Colombo



Ports, Shipping and Southern Development Minister Sagala Ratnayaka speaking at the opening of the Sri Lanka Pavilion

is the chosen destination for global carriers to serve global clients in South Asia – connecting the Indian subcontinent via Sri Lanka. This increases shipping options to all continents and global players by offering faster connectivity.

"According to the Alphaliner rankings, the Port of Colombo has ranked the 'Fastest Growing Container Port' of 30 major ports in the world during the first half of 2018. It was an exciting moment for the maritime sector of Sri Lanka, as it was the first time the Port of Colombo reached the top of a global maritime ranking.

"While acknowledging the growth we have achieved in terms

of numbers, the Sri Lanka Ports Authority has also focused on fast-tracking strategic decisions pertaining to the expansion of the Colombo Port's capacity. Only such decisions, in my view, will ensure that our growth is sustainable.

"I must also add that the strategic location of the Hambantota International Port provides advantages, not just for the shipping industry, but also for the import/export business in general, as the port can offer comparatively shorter timelines, coupled with effective and experienced handling.

"Competitive labour costs, door-to-door delivery, attractive concessions and Freeport facilities, ample space for storage, and dry weather throughout the year are among the factors providing the Hambantota International Port with a clear competitive edge in its quest to becoming a maritime and logistics hub.

"Measures are also underway to revolutionise our transport sector strengthening infrastructure connectivity in Sri Lanka. Sri Lanka's first multimodal transport centre enabling travellers to easily switch between rail and bus services was opened at the entrance to the expressway interchange in Kottawa, a suburb southeast of

Colombo, in April this year.

"Light Rail Transit System has also been initiated in Colombo with the objective of increasing the transportation capacity and improving the safety and comfort of public transportation. The LRT system will set up 16 stations distributed over 15.7 kilometres of track in and around Colombo.

"Our Government is working on an ambitious plan to add another 145 kilometres to the expressway system in Sri Lanka by the end of this year. This includes a 96 km stretch of the Southern Expressway from Matara to Hambantota, a 9.63 km stretch of Outer Circular Expressway from Kadawatha to Kerawalapitiya and the second phase of the Central Expressway from Mirigama to Kurunegala. This demonstrates that our Government works with a holistic and harmonising approach when it comes to the development of transport, logistics and infrastructure.

"I am particularly happy to be here at the Transport and Logistics Fair 2019, which is a great opportunity for Sri Lankan representatives to network with the international business community. I am certain that the relationships we form today will go a long way, cementing our goodwill and realising our shared aspirations and goals."

Newspaper – Daily FT Date – 10-06-2019



Over 200 passengers from the cruise liner took advantage of the stopover, making day trips to Yala, Bundala, Udawalawe, Kataragama, and Ella

Hambantota Port attracts luxury cruise liner Europa 2

HAPAG-LLOYD'S luxury cruise liner Europa 2 docked at the Hambantota International Port (HIP) last week for an overnight stay. Over 200 passengers from the cruise liner took advantage of the stopover, making day trips to Yala, Bundala, Udawalawe, Kataragama, and Ella.

Europa 2's visit was the first luxury cruiser in Sri Lanka after the Easter Sunday bombing as well as being the first time a cruise ship did an overnight stop at the port. The fact that Hapag-Lloyd had the confidence to bring their most luxurious cruise ship to dock at HIP is a glowing endorsement to normalcy returning to the country, and Hambantota Port was able to provide the best to facilitate the visit.

Hambantota International Port Services (HIPS) CEO Capt. Ravi Jayawickrema says: "Despite security being tightened within the port premises, our operations teams were able to personally look into speedy passenger movements in and out of the port to visit places of attraction in and around Hambantota within the time frame they had. We made every effort to make their movements hassle-free. The feedback we have received from the tour operator was

extremely positive, as they were more than satisfied with the services rendered by HIPS. With travel advisories being lifted, we hope to see more cruise ships coming into the Hambantota Port."

"One of the world's most luxurious cruise ships MS Europa 2, called in Hambantota on 5 and 6 June. This was the first cruise ship that arrived in Sri Lanka after the incidents in April. Since security was a concern for the ship to come to Sri Lanka, we were really happy with the level of security provided by the authorities at the Hambantota Port. All services provided by the Port were excellent. This encourages us to promote more cruise vessels to Hambantota in the future," says Aitken Spence Travels Vice President Prasanjit Perera, the local tour operator for Hapag-Lloyd Cruises.

Europa 2 which was initially on a 12-hour stop at the Hambantota Port extended its stay for 36 hours.

Hapag-Lloyd's 500-passenger luxury liner, which is likened to a floating mini resort was awarded five star plus by Berlitz Cruise Guide 2019. It has earned the best cruise ship in the world tag, not only for its modern luxury amenities but for the travel lifestyle offered on board.

Newspaper – Daily News Date – 10-06-2019

Luxury ship MS Europa calls on Colombo Port



MS Europa, a luxury cruise ship considered as one of the most spacious cruise ships on the market is docked at the Colombo Harbour.

On their arrival in Colombo, the guests were welcomed by the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau and were able to enjoy a cultural performance afterwards.

The visitors were seen to be enjoying the cultural performance very much, depicting traditional dances which was a new experience to them. The MS Europa captured the attention of many people with its magnificent structure, and the public were able to get a panoramic view of the whole harbor and its surroundings.

They arrived in Colombo after a short stay in Hambantota and Galle, and went on excursions to Yala, Bandipur, and Nagapalli. They also visited the Galle Fort, the Galle Museum, and the Galle Fort. They also visited the Galle Fort, the Galle Museum, and the Galle Fort.

"It is noteworthy that this is the first cruise liner to call over in Sri Lanka after the recent incident. Therefore, I wish to place on record my sincere appreciation to all the passengers for deciding to visit our island paradise and especially those who were responsible for removing passenger crises to the country as it validates the fact that the country is safe and secure for travel," stated Minister of Tourism, Wildlife and Christian Religious Affairs, Jeeva Jayasinghe.

He also mentioned, Managing Director, Afton Spence, expressed that this is the first cruise ship which is coming after the April 21st.

"This is one of the most luxurious cruise ships in the world. As the general handling agent of this occasion, we're most privileged to be a part of this important occasion. This is a great endorsement for destination to enhance its tourism further," he said.

The ship managed by Happy-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten arrived at the Hambantota Harbor on June 5 with over 400 guests.

Guests who came onboard MS Europa stayed at the Shangri-La hotel in Marchiswara and also in Galle. As part of their long stay in the country, the guests also will travel to Colombo where they will experience a glimpse of the street markets and shopping centres. Helo tours will make arrangements to take them to Sigiriya and Kandy. Upon completion of their Sri Lanka tour, they will be taken to the plantations at Negombo. MS Europa is scheduled to depart on 10th of June 2019.

Happy-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten has decided to have many frequent calls to Colombo, Galle, Trincomalee and Hambantota. The ship has been awarded the coveted distinction of 5-star plus by the Border Cruise Cruise 2019. The Cruise market is one of the priority markets for Sri Lanka tourism. It is noteworthy to mention that MS Europa is the first cruise ship to arrive to the country after April



Newspaper – Daily News Date – 10-06-2019

Luxury cruise liner Europa 2 calls on H' tota Port



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The CEO of Hambantota International Port Services (HIPS) Capt. Ravi Jayawickrema said, "Despite security

being tightened within the port premises, our operations teams were able to personally look into speedy passenger movements in and out of the port to visit places of attraction in and around Hambantota within the time frame they had. We made every effort to make their movements hassle free.

The feedback we have received from the tour operator was extremely positive, as they were more than satisfied with the services rendered by HIPS. With travel advisories being lifted, we hope to see more cruise ships coming into the Hambantota Port."

"One of the world's most luxurious cruise ships MS Europa 2, called in Hambantota on June 5-6. This was the first cruise ship that arrived in Sri Lanka after the incidents in April. Since security was a concern for the ship to come to Sri Lanka, we were really happy with the level of security provided by the authorities at the Hambantota Port. All services provided by the Port were excellent. This encourages us to promote more cruise vessels to Hambantota in the future," Prasanjit Perera, Vice President of Aitken Spence Travels, the local tour operator for Hapag-Lloyd Cruises said.

Europa 2 which was initially on a 12 hour stop at the Hambantota Port extended its stay for 36 hours. Hapag-Lloyd's 500 passenger luxury liner, which is likened to a floating mini resort was awarded 5 star plus by Berlitz Cruise Guide 2019. It has earned the best cruise ship in the world tag, not only for its modern luxury amenities but for the travel lifestyle offered on board.

Newspaper – Daily Mirror Date – 10-06-2019

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Newspaper – Daily FT Date – 10-06-2019

THE Port of Colombo through an exclusive delegation from Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA), South Asia Gateway Terminals Ltd. (SAGT) and Colombo International Container Terminals Ltd. (CICT) partnered in the Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the Transport and Logistics Fair in Germany.

The Transport and Logistics Fair was held from 4 to 7 June in Munich, Germany. The event held by annually attracts more than 2,000 exhibitors and nearly 70,000 business visitors for sectors such as logistics, mobility, IT and supply chain.

The Sri Lankan segment of this Transport and Logistics Fair was facilitated through the delegation of the German Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka following its recommendation to organise a Sri Lanka Pavilion at the event.

Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB) was the main coordinating arm for Sri Lanka's participation at the event. The main purpose of the EDB coordinating the participation at this event is to promote the image of Sri Lanka as a logistics hub in the world which is one of the strategic objectives of the National Export Strategy launched on 19 July 2018.

The opening of the Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the Transport and Logistics Fair – 2019 was graced

Port of Colombo partners in SL Country Pavilion at Transport and Logistics Fair in Germany



Ports and Shipping Minister Sagala Ratnayaka and Parliamentary State Secretary of Germany Steffen Bilger open the Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the Transport and Logistics Fair – 2019 in Munich, Germany

by Ports and Shipping Minister Sagala Ratnayaka and the Parliamentary State Secretary of Germany Steffen Bilger. Speaking at the opening of the event, Minister Ratnayaka said that it was a perfect opportunity to

brand Sri Lanka and its port sector being the 11th best connectivity port and the 22nd best container port

in the global container port rankings.

The Minister also briefed Steffen Bilger of the present

progress and future development agenda of Sri Lanka and its port sector.

Expressing views, Bilger thanked the Minister and Sri Lankan delegation for participating in the event and said that he hoped Sri Lanka would receive more and more cooperation and benefit through participation in the event.

Participation in the Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the Transport and Logistics Fair also included the presence of SLPA representatives; Director – Logistics Upul Jayatissa, Chief Manager – Communication and Public Relations Nalin Aponso, SAGT representatives; CEO Romesh David, Chief Commercial Officer Ted Muttiah, Commercial and Marketing Manager Dashma Karunaratne, and CICT General Manager – Commercial and Marketing Catriona Jayasundera.



Visitors at the opening of the Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the Transport and Logistics Fair – 2019



Sri Lankan delegation at the event. From left: SLPA Chief Manager – Communication and Public Relations Nalin Aponso, SAGT CEO Romesh David, SAGT Commercial and Marketing Manager Dashma Karunaratne, CICT General Manager – Commercial and Marketing Catriona Jayasundera, SAGT Chief Commercial Officer Ted Muttiah and SLPA Director – Logistics Upul Jayatissa

Newspaper – Ceylon FT Date – 10-06-2019

Luxury cruise liner Europa docks at Hambantota

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Luxury...

This encourages us to promote more cruise vessels to Hambantota in the future," says Prasanna Perera, Vice President of Antares Spence Travels, the local tour operator for Hapag-Lloyd Cruises.

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Newspaper – Ceylon FT Date – 10-06-2019

Transport and Logistics Fair in Germany

Port of Colombo partners in SL Country Pavilion

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The opening of the Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the Transport and Logistics Fair - 2019 was graced by Minister of Ports and Shipping Sagala Ratnayaka and the Parliamentary State Secretary of Germany Steffen Bilger. Speaking at the opening of the event, Minister Sagala Ratnayaka said that it was a perfect opportunity to brand Sri Lanka and its port sector being the 11th best connectivity port and the 22nd best container port in the global container port rankings. The Minister also briefed the Parliamentary State Secretary of Germany Steffen Bilger of the present progress and future development agenda of Sri Lanka and its port sector.

Expressing views Parliamentary State Secretary of Germany Steffen Bilger thanked the Minister and Sri Lankan delegation for participating in the event and said that he hoped Sri Lanka would receive more and more cooperation and benefit through participation in the event.

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Newspaper – Daily FT Date – 10-06-2019



World's most spacious luxury ship arrives in Sri Lanka

MS Europa, a luxury cruise ship considered as one of the most spacious cruise ships on the market, recently docked at the Colombo Harbour. On their arrival in Colombo, the guests were welcomed by the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau and were also able to enjoy a cultural performance afterwards.

They arrived in Colombo after a short stay in Hambantota and Galle, and went on excursions to Yala, Bandaragama Agro village and enjoying in the Koggala Lake. They also visited the Galduwa tea plantation, Akuressi. Over 300 guests from Germany who were onboard the ship visited Bundala National Park, Kataramba Temple as well as Ella as part of a five-day itinerary.

"I wish to extend a warm welcome to all guests on board the luxury liner, MS Europa which is currently docked at the Colombo port. It is noteworthy that this is the first cruise liner to call over in Sri Lanka after the recent inci-

denits. Therefore, I wish to place on record my sincere appreciation to all the passengers for deciding to visit our island paradise and especially those who were responsible for resuming passenger cruises to the country as it validates the fact that the country is safe and secure for travel," stated Minister of Tourism, Wildlife and Christian Religious Affairs John Amarasinghe.

Atiken Spence, Managing Director, Nalin Jayasundara expressed that this is the first cruise ship which is coming after 21 April. "This is one of the most luxurious cruise ships in the world. As the ground handling agents of this occasion, we're most privileged to be a part of this important occasion. This is a great endorsement for destination to enhance its tourism further," he said.

The ship managed by Hapag-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten arrived at the Hambantota Harbour on 5 June with over 300 guests.

Guests who came onboard MS Europa stayed at the Shangri-La hotel in Hambantota and also in Galle. As part of their long tour in the country, the guests also will travel to Colombo where they will experience a glimpse of the street markets and shopping arcades. Belt tours will make arrangements to take them to Sigiriya and Rands. Upon completion of their hill country tour, they will be taken to tea plantations at Ingiriya. MS Europa is scheduled to depart on 8 June.

Hapag-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten has decided to have more frequent calls to Colombo, Galle, Trincomalee and Hambantota. The ship has been awarded the coveted distinction of 5-stars plus by the Berlitz Cruise Guide 2019. The cruise market is one of the priority markets for Sri Lanka tourism. It is noteworthy to mention that MS Europa is the first cruise ship to arrive to the country after April.

File by Ruwan Walpola



From left: Atiken Spence Travels Managing Director Nalin Jayasundara, Atiken Spence Shipping Vice President Prasanth Perera and Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau Managing Director Charmalie Maelgo at the event.



Newspaper – Daily News Date – 10-06-2019

Transport and Logistics Fair Germany

Colombo Port partners Sri Lanka Country Pavilion

The Port of Colombo through an exclusive delegation from Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA), South Asia Gateway Terminals (Pvt) Ltd. (SAGT) and Colombo International Container Terminals (Ltd) (CICT) partnered in the Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the Transport and Logistics Fair in Germany.

The Transport and Logistics Fair was held from June 4-7 in Munich, Germany. The annual event attracts more than 2,000 exhibitors and nearly 70,000 business visitors for sectors such as logistics, mobility, IT and supply chain. The Sri Lankan segment of this Transport and Logistics



Minister of Ports and Shipping Sagala Ratnayaka and the Parliamentary State Secretary of Germany Steffen Bilger opens the Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the Transport and Logistics Fair – 2019 in Munich, Germany.

tics Fair was facilitated through the delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka following its recommendation to organize a Sri

Lanka Pavilion at the event. Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB) was the main coordinating arm for Sri Lanka's participation at

the event. The main purpose of the EDB coordinating the participation at this event is to promote the image of Sri Lanka as a logistics hub in the world which is one of the strategic objectives of the National Export Strategy launched on July 19 2018.

The opening of the Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the Transport and Logistics Fair 2019 was graced by Minister of Ports and Shipping Sagala Ratnayaka and the Parliamentary State Secretary of Germany Steffen Bilger. Speaking at the opening of the event, Minister Ratnayaka said that it was a perfect opportunity to brand Sri Lanka and its port sector

being the 11th best connectivity port and the 22nd best container port in the global container port rankings.

The Minister also briefed the Parliamentary State Secretary of Germany Steffen Bilger of the present progress and future development agenda of Sri Lanka and its port sector.

Expressing views Parliamentary State Secretary of Germany Steffen Bilger thanked the Minister and Sri Lankan delegation for participating in the event and said that he hoped Sri Lanka would receive more and more cooperation and benefit through participation in the event.

To page 19

Colombo Port... From Page 1

Participation in the Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the Transport and Logistics Fair also included the presence of SLPA representatives; Director (Logistics) Upul Jayatilaka; Chief Manager (Communication and Public Relations) Nalin Apomso, SAGT representatives; Chief Executive Officer Ramesh David, Chief Commercial Officer, Ted Muttliah, Commercial and Marketing Manager - Dashma Karunaratne, and CICT representative; General Manager (Commercial and Marketing) Catriona Jayasundera.

Newspaper – Daily Mirror Date – 10-06-2019

SLPA, SAGT, CICT partner at German Transport and Logistics Fair

The Port of Colombo through an exclusive delegation from Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA), South Asia Gateway Terminals (Pvt.) Ltd (SAGT) and Colombo International Container Terminals Ltd (CICT) partnered in the Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the Transport and Logistics Fair in Germany.

The Transport and Logistics Fair was held from June 4 to 7, 2019, in Munich, Germany. The event, held by-annually, attracts more than 2,000 exhibitors and nearly 70,000 business visitors for sectors such as logistics, mobility, IT and supply chain.

The Sri Lankan segment of this Transport and Logistics Fair was facilitated through the delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Sri Lanka, following its recommendation to organise a Sri Lanka Pavilion at the event.

Sri Lanka Export Development Board (EDB) was the main coordinating arm for Sri Lanka's participation at the event. The main purpose of the EDB coordinating the participation at this event is to promote the image of Sri Lanka as a logistics hub in the world which is one of the strategic objectives of the National Export Strategy launched on July 19,



Sri Lankan delegation at the event (From left): SLPA Communication and Public Relations Chief Manager Nalin Aponso, SAGT CEO Romesh David, SAGT Commercial and Marketing Manager Dashma Karunaratne, CICT Commercial and Marketing General Manager Catriona Jayasundera, SAGT Chief Commercial Officer Ted Muttiah and SLPA Logistics Director Upul Jayatissa

2018.

The opening of the Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the Transport and Logistics Fair 2019 was graced by Ports and Shipping Minister Sagala Ratnayaka and German Parliamentary State Secretary Steffen Bilger.

Speaking at the opening of the event, Minister Sagala Ratnayaka said that it was a perfect opportunity to brand Sri Lanka and its port sector being the 11th best connectivity port and the 22nd best container port in the global container

port rankings. The Minister also briefed the German Parliamentary State Secretary Steffen Bilger of the present progress and future development agenda of Sri Lanka and its port sector.

Expressing views, Steffen Bilger thanked the minister and the Sri Lankan delegation for participating in the event and said that he hoped Sri Lanka would receive more and more cooperation and benefit through participation in the event.

The Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the Transport



Ports and Shipping Minister Sagala Ratnayaka and German Parliamentary State Secretary Steffen Bilger cut the ribbon to launch the Sri Lanka Country Pavilion at the Transport and Logistics Fair 2019, Germany

and Logistics Fair also saw the participation of SLPA representatives; Logistics Director Upul Jayatissa, Communication and Public Relations Chief Manager Nalin Aponso, SAGT representatives; Chief Executive Officer Romesh David, Chief Commercial Officer Ted Muttiah, Commercial and Marketing Manager Dashma Karunaratne and CICT representative; Commercial and Marketing General Manager Catriona Jayasundera.

Newspaper – Daily News Date – 11-06-2019

Aitken Spence facilitates luxury ship MS Europa call on two ports in SL

Welcoming tourists



MS Europa 2



The luxury cruise ship "MS EUROPA 2", owned by German operator Hapag-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten Hamburg, recently called on the Ports of Hambantota and Colombo from the 5 to 8 of June with 309 passengers and 356 crew onboard.

Aitken Spence Maritime is the agent in Sri Lanka for Hapag-Lloyd which is one of the largest container shipping lines in the world. MS Europa and MS Europa 2 are the only cruise ships in the world classified with 5-star rating by the legendary Berlitz Cruise Guide. MS Europa 2 is regarded as the new jewel of the Hapag-Lloyd Cruises fleet.

MS EUROPA 2 offers the highest level of casual luxury with a maximum of 500 guests. All passenger suites are equipped with their own veranda and at least 28 square meters of living space to ensure ample space per passenger.

The ship is one of the

most spacious cruise ships on the market and is intended for the luxury cruise segment of the German market. Every year MS Europa 2 sets sail on its journey around the world to visit ports that are unreachable by other ships due to its size.

To commemorate her call a ceremony was held at the Port of Colombo on the 7th of June 2019.

"We are extremely delighted that Aitken Spence Maritime facilitated the first cruise ship to call on two ports of Sri Lanka after the unfortunate incidents that took place in April 2019. It is also encouraging for the team to see their efforts materialise and with the Group's active involvement in the leisure industry, the company will continue to offer comprehensive synergised services to cruise operators," said Iqram Cuttilan, Managing Director of Aitken Spence Maritime.

"Hapag-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten having made fre-

quent calls to Trincomalee, Hambantota, Galle and Colombo will also include their ships in its schedule for 2019/20. In fact, Hapag-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten has selected Sri Lankan Ports as the beginning and end of their voyages, enabling passengers to embark and disembark in Sri Lanka," said Lalith Witanachchi, Assistant Vice President of Hapag-Lloyd Lanka.

Hapag-Lloyd's local agent, Aitken Spence Maritime, is a pioneer in the industry and was the first in Sri Lanka to undertake port efficiency enhancement management overseas with its entry into the African Continent and subsequently the South Pacific Islands.

The company handles all areas of maritime services - from ship agents and cargo handlers, to liner agency, cruise vessel, port management and development, chartering services and maritime education.

Newspaper – The Island Date – 11-06-2019

Hambantota Port attracts luxury cruise liner Europa 2; a boost for tourism

Hapag-Lloyd's luxury cruise liner Europa 2, docked at the Hambantota International Port (HIP) last week for an overnight stay. Over 200 passengers from the cruise liner took advantage of the stopover, making day trips to Yala, Bundala, Udawalawe, Kataragama, and Ella.

Europa 2's visit was the first luxury cruiser in Sri Lanka, after the Easter Sunday bombing as well as being the first time a cruise ship did an overnight stop at the port. The fact that Hapag-Lloyd had the confidence to bring their most luxurious cruise ship to dock at HIP is a glowing endorsement to normalcy returning to the country, and Hambantota Port was able to provide the best to facilitate the visit.

The CEO of Hambantota International Port Services (HIPS) Capt. Ravi Jayawickrama says, "Despite security being tightened within the port premises, our operations teams were able to personally look into speedy passenger movements in and out of the port to visit places of attraction in and around Hambantota within the time frame they had. We made every effort to make their movements hassle free. The feedback we have received from the tour operator was extremely positive, as

they were more than satisfied with the services rendered by HIPS. With travel advisories being lifted, we hope to see more cruise ships coming into the Hambantota Port."

"One of the world's most luxurious cruise ships MS Europa 2, called on Hambantota on the 08th & 09th June. This was the first cruise ship that arrived in Sri Lanka after the incidents in April. Since security was a concern for the ship to come to Sri Lanka, we were really happy with the level of security provided by the authorities at the Hambantota Port. All services provided by the Port were excellent. This encourages us to promote more cruise vessels to Hambantota in the future," says Prasanjit Perera, Vice President of Alden Spence Travels, the local tour operator for Hapag-Lloyd Cruises.

Europa 2 which was initially on a 12 hour stop at the Hambantota Port extended its stay for 36 hours.

Hapag-Lloyd's 300 passenger luxury liner, which is likened to a floating mini resort was awarded 5 star plus by Berlitz Cruise Guide 2019. It has earned the best cruise ship in the world tag, not only for its modern luxury amenities but for the travel lifestyle offered on board.



Over 200 passengers from the cruise liner took advantage of the stopover, making day trips to Yala, Bundala, Udawalawe, Kataragama, and Ella.

පුවත්පත - මව්බිම දිනය - 2019-06-11

වාර්ෂික ජර්මන් ප්‍රවාහන හා සේවා සැපයුම් වෙළෙඳසොළ දැක්මට ලංකාවෙහි ප්‍රදර්ශන කුටියක්



මුහුණ පෑරූ පසුබිම

ජර්මනිය විසින් වාර්ෂිකව සංවිධාන කරන ප්‍රවාහන හා සේවා සැපයුම් වෙළෙඳසොළ ප්‍රදර්ශනය පසුගියදා ජර්මනියේ මියුනිච්හිදී පැවැත්විණි. මෙහිදී ශ්‍රී ලංකාවටද ප්‍රදර්ශන මණ්ඩපයක් වෙන්වී තිබිණි.

මීට කොළඹ වරාය නියෝජනය කරමින් පශ්චාත්තල පර්යන්තය (JCT), සවුත් ඒෂියා හේට්වේ ටර්මිනල් (SAGT), කලම්බු ඉන්ටර්නැෂනල් කන්ටේනර් ටර්මිනල් (CICT) නියෝජනය කරමින් නියෝජිත පිරිසක් සහභාගි වූහ.

Newspaper – Daily FT Date – 11-06-2019



Aitken Spence facilitates luxury cruise ship MS Europa call on two ports in Sri Lanka

THE luxury cruise ship 'MS Europa 2', owned by German operator Hapag-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten Hamburg, recently called on the Ports of Hambantota and Colombo from 3 to 6 June with 500 passengers and 100 crew onboard.

Aitken Spence Maritime is the agent in Sri Lanka for Hapag-Lloyd which is one of the largest container shipping lines in the world. MS Europa and MS Europa 2 are the only cruise ships in the world classified with five-star rating by the legendary Berlitz Cruise Guide. MS Europa 2 is regarded as the new jewel of the Hapag-Lloyd Cruises fleet.

MS Europa 2 offers the highest level of casual luxury with a maximum of 500 guests. All passenger suites are equipped with their own veranda and at least 16 square meters of living space to ensure ample space per passenger.

The ship is one of the most spacious cruise ships on the market and is intended for the luxury cruise segment of the German market. Every year MS Europa 2 sets sail on its journey around the world to visit ports that are unreachable by other ships due to its size. To commemorate her call a ceremony was held at the Port of Colombo on 7 June.

"We are extremely delighted that Aitken Spence Maritime facilitated the first cruise ship to call on two ports of Sri Lanka after the unfortunate incidents that took place in April 2019. It is also encouraging for the team to see their efforts materialise and with the Group's active involvement in the leisure industry, the company will continue to offer comprehensive synergised services to cruise operators," said Aitken Spence Maritime Managing Director Iqram Cuttlan.

"Hapag-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten having made frequent calls to



Trincomalee, Hambantota, Galle and Colombo will also include their ships in its schedule for 2019/20. In fact, Hapag-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten has selected Sri Lankan Ports as the beginning and end of their voyages, enabling passengers to embark and disembark in Sri Lanka," said Hapag-Lloyd Lanka Assistant Vice-President Lalith Witanachchi.

Hapag-Lloyd's local agent, Aitken Spence Maritime, is a pioneer in the industry and was the first in Sri Lanka to undertake port efficiency enhancement management overseas with its entry into the African Continent and subsequently the South Pacific Islands.

The company handles all areas of maritime services – from ship agents and cargo handlers, to liner agency, cruise vessel, port management and development, chartering services and maritime education.



පුවත්පත - දිවයින දිනය - 2019-06-12



ප්‍රවාහන හා සේවා ජර්මනියේ ප්‍රදර්ශනාගාරයේදී ශ්‍රී ලංකා කුවි විවෘත කරමින්

ජර්මනිය විසින් වාර්ෂිකව සංවිධානය කරන ප්‍රවාහන හා සේවා සැපයුම් වෙළෙඳපොළ ප්‍රදර්ශනය මෙවරද ජුනි 04 දා සිට 07 වන දා දක්වා මිෂනිවි හිදී පැවැත්වුණි. මෙහිදී ශ්‍රී ලංකාවට ද වෙළෙඳ කුටියක් වෙන්ව තිබුණි.

කොළඹ වරාය නියෝජනය කරමින් ජයබහලු පර්යන්තය (JCT) සමඟ ජේට්වේ වර්මන්ල් (SAGT) කළමනාකරණ ඉන්ටර්නැෂනල් කන්ටේනර් වර්මන්ල් (CICT) විශේෂ නියෝජිත පිරිසක් සහභාගි වූහ. කොළඹ වරාය ද ප්‍රදර්ශන කුටියක් ස්ථාපිත කළ අතර, එහි වෙළෙඳ ප්‍රවර්ධන කටයුතු සිදු කරනු ලැබුවේ මෙම විශේෂිත නියෝජිත පිරිස විසිනි.

එහිදී 2019 - ප්‍රවාහන හා සේවා සැපයුම් ප්‍රදර්ශනය ශ්‍රී ලංකා කුවි විවෘත කිරීමේ අවස්ථාවට වරාය හා නාවික සහ දකෂිණ සංවර්ධන අමාත්‍ය සාගල රත්නායක සහ ජර්මනියේ පාර්ලිමේන්තු රාජ්‍ය ලේකම් ස්ටෙෆාන් බිල්කර් යන මහත්වරු සහභාගි වූ අයුරු.

පුවත්පත - රැස දිනය - 2019-06-13

ජර්මානු ප්‍රවාහන හා සේවා සැපයුම් ප්‍රදර්ශනය උත්කර්ෂවත්ව නිමා වෙයි



[විශේෂා දෑ සිල්වා]

ජර්මනිය විසින් චාර්ටර් සංවිධානය කරනු ලබන ප්‍රවාහන හා සේවා සැපයුම් වෙළෙඳ ප්‍රදර්ශනය මෙවරද අති උත්කර්ෂවත් අන්දමින් ජුනි 04 සිට 07 දින දක්වා මියුනිච් හිදී පැවැත්විණි.



ප්‍රවාහන හා සේවා සැපයුම් ප්‍රදර්ශනය ශ්‍රී ලංකා මණ්ඩපය විවෘත කිරීමේ අවස්ථාවට වරාය හා නාවික සහ දෘෂිණි සංවර්ධන අමාත්‍ය සාගල රත්නසක මහතා මෙන්ම ජර්මනියේ පාර්ලිමේන්තු රාජ්‍ය ලේකම් ස්ටෙෆන් බිල්ගර් (Mr. Steffen Bilger) මහතාද සහභාගී වූහ. ශ්‍රී ලංකා අපනයන සංවර්ධන මණ්ඩලය

විසින් (EDB) ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ ප්‍රධාන සම්බන්ධකාරීත්වය දරණු ලැබීය.

කොළඹ වරාය නියෝජනය කරමින් ජයබහල පර්යන්තය (JCT), සවුත් එෂියා හේට්වේ ටර්මිනල් (SAGT), කළුමිණ ඉන්ටර්නැෂනල් කන්ටේනර් ටර්මිනල් (CICT) විශේෂිත නියෝජිත පිරිසක් සහභාගී වූහ. කොළඹ වරායද ප්‍රදර්ශන කුටියක් ස්ථාපිත කොට තිබූ අතර කොළඹ වරායේ වෙළෙඳ ප්‍රවර්ධන කටයුතු සිදු කරනු ලැබුවේ විශේෂිත නියෝජිත පිරිසක් විසිනි.

2018 ජූලි 19 වැනි දින එළිදක්වන ලද ජාතික අපනයන උපායමාර්ගික පරමාර්ථයන්ට අනුව ශ්‍රී ලංකාව සේවා සැපයුම් කේන්ද්‍රයක් කිරීමේ අරමුණ පෙරදැරිව මෙම ප්‍රදර්ශනය සඳහා ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ ආයතන සහභාගී කරවීමට කටයුතු කෙරේ.

පුවත්පත - අද දිනය - 2019-06-13

ජර්මානු ප්‍රවාහන හා සේවා සැපයුම් ප්‍රදර්ශනයට කොළඹ වරායත්



ජර්මනියේදී වාර්ෂිකව සංවිධානය කෙරෙන ප්‍රවාහන හා සේවා සැපයුම් වෙළෙඳ පොළ ප්‍රදර්ශනය සඳහා ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ කොළඹ වරායත් ප්‍රදර්ශන මණ්ඩපයේ ඔබ්බේ පසුබිමේ පූර්ණ 04 වැනිදා සිට 07 වැනිදා දක්වා මෙම ප්‍රදර්ශනය ජර්මනියේ මිගුනිම් නුවරදී පැවැත්වුණි. මෙහිදී කොළඹ වරාය නියෝජනය කරමින් ජයබහලු පරියන්තය, සවුත් ඒෂියා ගේට්ටේ ටර්මිනල්, කලුමිඩු ඉන්ටර්නැෂනල් කන්ටේනර් ටර්මිනල්හි විශේෂිත නියෝජිත පිරිසක් සහභාගි වී ඇත.

මෙම වෙළෙඳ පොළ ප්‍රදර්ශනය සඳහා වාර්ෂිකව ප්‍රදර්ශනයක් 2000කට ආසන්න සංඛ්‍යාවක් සහභාගි

වන බවත්, 70,000කට අධික විකාශාර්ථ පිරිසක්, ප්‍රවාහන, සේවා සැපයුම්, සැපයුම් ක්‍රම, තොරතුරු තාක්ෂණයන් ක්ෂේත්‍ර නියෝජනය කරමින් නැරඹීමට පැමිණෙන බවත් පැවසෙයි. මෙහිදී ශ්‍රී ලංකා අපනයනය සංවර්ධන මණ්ඩලය ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ ප්‍රධාන සම්බන්ධීකාරීත්වය දරා ඇත.

ශ්‍රී ලංකා ප්‍රදර්ශන මණ්ඩපය විවෘත කිරීම වරාය හා නාවික සහ දක්ෂිණ සංවර්ධන ඇමති සාගල රත්නායක මහතා සහ ජර්මනියේ පාර්ලිමේන්තු රාජ්‍ය ලේකම් ස්ටෙෆන් බ්ලිෆර් යන මහත්වරුන් සහභාගි වී තිබේ. මෙහිදී අදහස් දක්වා ඇති අමාත්‍යවරයා, ශ්‍රී ලංකාව ලෝකයේ හොඳම සහ සම්බන්ධිත වරාය අතර



11 වැනි ස්ථානයටත්, ලොව හොඳම බහලු මෙහෙයුම් වරාය අතර 22 වැනි ස්ථානයටත් පත්ව තිබීම ශ්‍රී ලංකාවේ වරාය ප්‍රවර්ධනය සඳහා මහඟු අවස්ථාවක් බව පවසා ඇත.

මෙහිදී ශ්‍රී ලංකා වරාය අධිකාරිය නියෝජනය කරමින් අධ්‍යක්ෂ (සේවා සැපයුම්) උපුල් ජයතිස්ස, ප්‍රධාන කළමනාකරු (සන්නිවේදන හා මහජන සම්බන්ධතා) නලින් අපොන්සු, සවුත් ඒෂියා ගේට්ටේ ටර්මිනල් වෙනුවෙන් වහි ප්‍රධාන විධායක නිලධාරී රොමේෂ් ඩේවිඩ්, ප්‍රධාන වාණිජ නිලධාරී ඩේවි මුත්තයිසා, වාණිජ හා වෙළෙඳ ප්‍රවර්ධන කළමනාකරු දක්ෂිණ කාරණාරත්න, කලුමිඩු ඉන්ටර්නැෂනල් කන්ටේනර් ටර්මිනල් වෙනුවෙන් වහි සාමාන්‍යාධිකාරී (වාණිජ හා වෙළෙඳ) කැට්ටියෝනා ජයසුන්දර යන මහත්ම මහත්මීන් සහභාගි වී ඇත.



Hambantota Int'l Port showcased at Transport Exhibition in Munich

Hambantota International Port (HIP), was a key participant at 'Transport Logistics 2019' the world's premier transport and logistics exhibition held in Munich, Germany last week.

The Sri Lankan delegation, of which Hambantota International Port Group (HIPG) representatives were part of, held several high-powered meetings with decision makers of Germany's leading logistics and engineering companies. Hellmann Worldwide Logistics, Hapag-Lloyd, Hamburg Port Consulting, Siemens Digital Logistics business, DHL, DB Schenker and Kuehne + Nagel were some of the top level players they met with.

The Lankan delegation who attended the meetings, was headed by Minister of Ports, Shipping and Southern Development Sagala Ratnayake while the HIPG team was led by veteran shipping executive, Tissa Wickramasinghe, Chief Operating Officer of HIPG.

"This is the first time in my entire career that I was challenged with positioning an entire port with all its services. But these are exciting times and we are proud to be trailblazers not only in positioning our multi-purpose port but also the opportunity of placing Sri Lanka on the world's maritime map, in an altogether new way," said Tissa Wickramasinghe.

He says, from a marketing point of view, his team's participation in the prestigious exhibition is significant, as it gave them the opportunity to showcase the port to the maritime world. HIPG as an organisational



Minister of Ports, Shipping and Southern Development Sagala Ratnayake and Parliamentary State Secretary Steffen Bilger visit HIP stall with other HIPG officials.



The team from HIPG at the Hambantota International Port stall. Standing, left to right: Sabrina Edirisinghe, Manager - Port Related Industry, Bindu Ranasinghe, Assistant General Manager Commercial and Marketing, Tissa Wickramasinghe, COO of HIPG, Chandula Rambukwella, Senior Manager - Commercial and Marketing, Sylesh Peerez, GM Operations HIPG.

strategy, is promoting the multi-purpose Hambantota Port as an entirely new proposition.

HIP's full range of services

include container handling, general cargo, ro-ro, passenger, bunkering, bulk terminal, gas, and project cargo.

The port is well on its way to

becoming one of a kind in Sri Lanka, as it is the only port in the country designed to handle such a wide range of services in the maritime and logistics fields. HIP which has been gearing for ease of doing business for a while now, recently partnered with the Sri Lanka's Board of Investment to establish a one-stop service centre within the port premises.

HIP which is a Public Private Partnership (PPP) entered into between the SLPA, and global port operator CMPort has not only doubled its RORO services, but has diversified its services to include a number of port related activities such as container handling, general cargo, passenger, bunkering, bulk terminal gas and project cargo. In addition to its maritime services, the port has drawn a master plan to become a logistics hub in the region, with warehouses, storage areas, and distribution centers being set up within its premises.

This maritime and logistics hub is intended to serve as a catalyst to develop a logistics centered economy. HIP will be the only port in the country, designed to handle a full gamut of services in the maritime and logistics area.

Once construction of basic facilities and other infrastructure are in place, the second stage of building standardised warehouses and attracting high value-added industries will begin, followed by upstream, middle and downstream industries in the final phase of the industrial park, which may include food processing and automobile services, amongst others.

Newspaper – The Island Date – 13-06-2019

Hambantota International Port showcased at the world's top transport and logistics exhibition in Munich

Hambantota International Port (HIP) was a key participant at 'Transport Logistics 2019' the world's premier transport and logistics exhibition held in Munich, Germany last week. The port which is the newest addition to the international maritime map was an important feature at the prestigious exposition of international logistical services which had 2,374 exhibitors and around 64,000 visitors from all over the world attending.

The Sri Lanka delegation, of which Hambantota International Port Group (HIPG) representatives were a part of, held several high-powered meetings with decision makers of Germany's leading logistics and engineering companies. Hellmann Worldwide Logistics, Hapag-Lloyd, Hamburg Port Consulting, Siemens Digital Logistics business, DHL, DB Schenker and Kuehne + Nagel were some of the top-level players they met with. The Lankan delegation who attended the meetings, was headed by Minister of Ports, Shipping and Southern Development Sagala Ratnayake while the HIPG team was led by veteran shipping executive, Tissa Wickramasinghe, Chief Operating Officer of HIPG.

"This is the first time in my entire career that I was challenged with positioning an entire port with all its services. But these are exciting times and we are proud to be trailblazers not only in positioning our multi-purpose port but also the opportunity of placing Sri Lanka on the world's maritime map, in an altogether new way," said Tissa Wickramasinghe.

He says, from a marketing point of view, his team's participation in the prestigious exhibition is significant, as it gave them the opportunity to showcase the port to the maritime world, "for us Sri Lanka, Hambantota is a well-known historic port, but to the world at large it is relatively new. No one knows about HIP's deep water capability and the vast area of land surrounding the port, well grimed

for development." The COO says the exhibition was the ideal platform for them to display the port's gamut of services coupled with its many strategic advantages.

HIPG as an organisational strategy, is promoting the multi-purpose Hambantota Port as an entirely new proposition. The marketing pitch of the company is based on the variety of cargo and unique port services that are being provided by the Port. The COO says, that is the reason why they decided to have their own stall at 'Transport Logistics 2019'. "Although we are one in promoting Sri Lanka, we are also different in our positioning, because Hambantota is a multi-purpose port, and our priorities and sales pitch is obviously quite different."

HIP's full range of services include container handling, general cargo, ro-ro, passenger bunkering, bulk terminal, gas, and project cargo. The port is well on its way to becoming one of a kind in Sri Lanka, as it is the only port in the country designed to handle such a wide range of services in the maritime and logistics fields.

HIP which has been gearing for ease of doing business for a while now, recently partnered with the Sri Lanka's Board of Investment to establish a one-stop service centre within the port premises. The centre provides facilitation services, including the granting of investment concessions to prospective investors.

HIP which is a Public Private Partnership (PPP) entered into between the SLPA, and global port operator CMPT has not only doubled its ROBO services, but has diversified its services to include a number of port related activities such as container handling, general cargo, passenger bunkering, bulk terminal gas and project cargo. HIPG has signed TSAs with several leading ro-ro shipping lines, and is well on its way to becoming one of a kind in Sri Lanka.



The team from HIPG at the Hambantota International Port stall. Standing left to right: Sabrina Edirisinghe, Manager - Port Related Industry, Bindu Ranasinghe, Assistant General Manager Commercial and Marketing, Tissa Wickramasinghe, COO of HIPG, Chandula Rambukwella, Senior Manager - Commercial & Marketing, Sylesh Peerez, GM Operations HIPG.

In addition to its maritime services, the port has drawn a master plan to become a logistics hub in the region, with warehouses, storage areas, and distribution centers being set up within its premises. This location is ideally suited not only because of its strategic position on the maritime map, but also owing to the approximately 3.5 square kilometers of vast land area, dedicated for port-related industries. An additional 50 square kilometers of land just outside the port perimeter is allocated for an industrial zone, and investments by the GOSL, in utility infrastructure and highway connectivity to the area is already underway.

This maritime and logistics hub is intended to serve as a catalyst to develop a logistics centered economy. HIP will be the only port in the country, designed to handle a full gamut of services in the maritime and logistics arena. Once construction of basic facilities and other infrastructure are in place, the second stage of building standardised warehouses and attracting high value-added industries will begin, followed by upstream, middle and downstream industries in the final phase of the industrial park, which may include food processing and automobile services, amongst others.

HIP is also the only port in the region to supply bunkering facilities to ships

calling at the port, and those moving on sea lanes, with IMO-compliant low Sulphur fuel oil. The Hambantota International Port Group has already entered into an agreement with global giant Sinopec who will be their strategic bunkering partner. Located between Singapore and Fujairah the number one and two bunker suppliers to the world respectively, HIP is well placed to exploit the potential of this trade.

The Hambantota International Port is positioned to be the one-stop logistics platform that caters to all, offering an integrated package that could be tailor made to their customers' needs. Reinforced by Hambantota's geographic location, the port offers an unparalleled experience of air and sea connectivity. In order to achieve these goals, HIP has taken into consideration, their close proximity to the Mattala airport and built processes for air-sea cargo movement.

The Hambantota Port is in line with the national vision for port development in Sri Lanka and responds to the SLPA's future growth plans for a modern port, free of urban restrictions, assuring long-term expansion capacity and a world standard industrial and logistics zone. A platform that can receive main players of port, maritime, industrial and logistics sectors, that adhere to the highest standards of integrity.

The Sri Lankan economy is entering a new phase in its development strategies where PPPs are being taken on to synergise the country's approach to meeting market challenges. HIPG is of the belief that these new policies will unlock investments in the micro, small and medium sized sectors, which will indirectly promote a trickle-down effect into the larger economy which would in turn have a direct impact on growth, job opportunities and ultimately prosperity for the nation.

Newspaper – Ceylon Today Date – 13-06-2019

Hambantota positioned as SL's multi-purpose port

The Chinese-managed Hambantota port on Sri Lanka's south coast is being positioned as a multi-purpose port with facilities and space to cater to a wide range of industries and services, an official said.

"Hambantota is a well-known historic port, but to the world at large it is relatively new," said Hambantota International Port Group (HIPG) Chief Operating Officer, Tissa Wickramasinghe.

"No one knows about HIP's deep water capability and the vast area of land surrounding the port, well primed for development."

Hambantota's facilities and services were promoted at 'Transport Logistics 2019', an international transport and logistics exhibition held in Munich, Germany last week.

HIPG is promoting the multi-

purpose Hambantota Port as an entirely new proposition with the marketing based on its variety of cargo and port services, Wickramasinghe was quoted as saying in a statement.

"Hambantota Port is in line with the national vision for port development in Sri Lanka and responds to the Sri Lanka Port Authority's future growth plans for a modern port, free of urban restrictions, assuring long-term expansion capacity and a world standard industrial and logistics zone," it said.

"The Sri Lankan economy is entering a new phase in its development strategies where PPPs (public-private partnerships) are being taken on to synergise the country's approach to meeting market challenges," it said.



Hambantota...

"HIPG is of the belief that these new policies will unlock investments in the micro, small and medium-sized sectors, which will indirectly promote a trickle-down effect into the larger economy, which would in turn have a direct impact on growth, job opportunities and ultimately prosperity for the nation."

HIP's full range of services include container handling, general cargo, ro-ro, passenger, bunkering, bulk terminal, gas, and project cargo.

The port has drawn a master plan to become a logistics hub in the region, with warehouses, storage areas, and distribution centres being set up within its premises.

(economynext)

Newspaper – Daily Mirror Date – 13-06-2019

Hambantota Port positioned as multi-purpose port

Hambantota International Port (HIP) is being positioned as a multi-purpose port, a top port executive said following the port's recent participation in the world premier transport and logistics exhibition, Transport Logistics 2019, held in Munich, Germany.

The port, which is the newest addition to the international maritime map, was an important feature at the prestigious exposition



HIPG Team at Hambantota International Port stall (from left) Port Related Industry Manager Sabrina Edirisinghe, Assistant General Manager Commercial and Marketing Bindu Ranasinghe, HIPG COO Tissa Wickremasinghe, Commercial and Marketing Senior Manager Chandula Rambukwella and HIPG GM Operations Sylesh Peerez

of international logistical services, which had 2,374 exhibitors and around

64,000 visitors from all over the world attending.

MORE ON P4

Hambantota Port...

"This is the first time in my entire career that I have been challenged with positioning an entire port with all its services. But these are exciting times and we are proud to be trailblazers not only in positioning our multi-purpose port but also the opportunity of placing Sri Lanka on the world's maritime map, in an altogether new way," Hambantota International Port Group (HIPG) COO Tissa Wickremasinghe said.

He added that from a marketing point of view, his team's participation in the prestigious exhibition is significant, as it gave them the opportunity to showcase the port to the maritime world.

"For us Sri Lankans, Hambantota is a well-known historic port but to the world at large, it is relatively new. No one knows about HIP's deep water capability and the vast area of land surrounding the port, well primed for development."

Wickremasinghe said HIPG, as an organisational strategy, is promoting the multi-purpose Hambantota Port as an entirely new proposition. The marketing pitch of the company is based on the variety of cargo and unique port services that are being provided by the port.

He said that was the reason why they decided to have their own stall at Transport Logistics 2019.

"Although we are one in promoting Sri Lanka, we are also different in our positioning because Hambantota is a multi-purpose port and our priorities and sales pitch are obviously quite different."

HIP's full range of services include container handling, general cargo, ro-ro, passenger, bunkering, bulk terminal, gas and project cargo.

The port is well on its way to becoming one of a kind in Sri Lanka, as it is the only port in the country designed to handle such a wide range of services in the maritime and logistics fields.

In addition to its maritime services, the port has drawn a master plan to become a logistics hub in the region, with warehouses, storage areas and distribution centres being set up within its premises, while leveraging on its strategic location.

HIP has approximately 3.5 square kilometres of vast land area dedicated for port-related industries.

In addition, 50 square kilometres of land just outside the port perimeter is allocated for an industrial zone and investments by the Government of Sri Lanka, in utility infrastructure and highway connectivity to the area, are already underway.

HIP is also the only port in the region to supply bunkering facilities to ships calling at the port and those moving on sea lanes, with IMO-compliant low sulphur fuel oil.

HIPG has already entered into an agreement with the global giant Sinopec, which will be its strategic bunkering partner.

Located between Singapore and Fujairah, the number one and two bunker suppliers to the world respectively, HIP is well placed to exploit the potential of this trade.

HIP is a public-private partnership entered into with the Sri Lanka Port Authority.

Newspaper – Sunday Times Date – 16-06-2019

Fuss over Colombo Port East Container Terminal

By D. Gamage

The East Container Terminal (ECT) of the Colombo Port has been brought into attention by the politicians in the Parliament in the recent past stating that it has been sold to Japan and India. But the governing side has denied that charge. What is ECT?

The Colombo Port has been in operation for over 130 years after protecting the water area by the South West breakwater. Systematic gradual development of the Port continued over the years and particularly from 1960s on container handling facilities. The Jaya Container Terminal JCT was completed by 1997 and the South Asia Gateway Terminal SAGT came into operation from about 2000.

Incidentally Colombo Port came into prominence as a result of these later developments and the ranking of the Port rose from 139th position in 1986 to 20th in 1997 globally while 1997 container handling recorded as 1,607,184 TEUs viz. container units.

As this existing harbour water basin and the facilities, such as quay wall lengths, water depth were becoming inadequate for modern mega container ships, around 1996 the idea of a new harbour basin was mooted and a feasibility study was completed in the year 2000. This proposal culminated in 2012 when a massive breakwater system having a length of 6km was completed enclosing a bigger water basin compared with 130 year old existing harbor basin and more significantly 18 m water depth compared to 15m water depth in present harbor. The Ports Authority had to bear a total cost of around US\$ 400 million.

This newly formed water basin is called the Colombo South Harbour located to the west of the old harbour and it is to have three massive container terminals named East, South and West container terminals. Each terminal will have 1200 m long quay wall berth length when present day mega container ship has a length of around 400m.

First of the three terminals developed was the South terminal as CICT or Colombo International Container Terminals Ltd in operation since 2013. The Ports Authority started building the East terminal and around 35 per cent berthing length was ready by 2013. Installation of container handling cranes and other equipment that would cost around \$100 million was interrupted and as a result the part completed ECT is lying idle.

Future of ECT

In such circumstances we now hear the news of development of the ECT in collaboration with Japan and India under a new Terminals Operations Company with 51 per cent of shareholding under the Ports Authority. A significant feature here is the 51 per cent shareholding to the Ports Authority when SLPA has only 15 per cent stake in both SAGT and CICT.

Speeding up of ECT operations is indeed welcome news to all in the maritime industry in the country. Everyone is aware that Colombo is reaching full capacity soon and adding capacity is crucial. The actual performance of Colombo in 2018 was 7 million TEUs and that

matched the high side forecast in the Business Plan developed in 2005 for the Colombo South Harbour and that forecast required the second terminal which is the ECT to be operational by 2019. But it did not happen.

In the National Port Master Plan presented to the Ports Authority the forecast for 2024 is given as around 8 million TEUs which appeared an under estimation, whereas the South Harbour Business Plan 2005 gave a figure close to 10 million TEUs. The lower forecast appears an excuse for the delay in the ECT operation as it will take at least two more years to operate. This Port Master Plan further stated that port capacity shortage starts from 2020. Significance of Japan and India.

Japan has been assisting the Colombo Port from around 1985 to expand and develop container handling facilities and the Jaya Container Terminal JCT along with other infrastructure components were completed by 1997. As stated previously Colombo rose from an insignificant domestic cargo handling port to an important container handling port and ranked 20th position globally. This elevation was due to transshipment cargo. Though the logistics industry is important and modern logistics trends have been talked now, the transshipment business will remain as the most significant factor for a longer time as seen over the past three decades and more.

Private operators came in after 1996 and contributed to increase capacity. Those in the maritime industry know that domestic base load is small and transshipment cargo volumes is made up about 78 per cent of the total cargo. The major contribution in that about 80 per cent of Colombo transshipment come from India. Statistics illustrated some years back show that Colombo receives about 40 per cent of all Indian transshipment cargo while the balance goes to Singapore, Malaysia and West Asian ports. It is hoped that the Indian partner will contribute to sustenance and gain of Indian cargo which is critical for Colombo success.

Conclusion

For a long time those in the maritime industry and others who wished the success of Colombo Port highlighted the delay in commencement of operation of ECT. Now with the news of movement towards commencement of the ECT it is essential to proceed faster as the development activities are time consuming. Supply of cranes and equipment would take about 18 months while the balance portion of structures and buildings would require two years or more. Unless the ECT operation is speeded up Colombo Port faces the danger of losing cargo volumes and global position in terms of connectivity which are not encouraging. Prompt action is therefore awaited for operationalisation of the ECT as the second deep water terminal.

(The writer is a Chartered Engineer and was Chief Engineer - Ports, Managing Director, Sri Lanka Ports Authority and Project Director, Colombo South Harbor Development Project).

Newspaper – Ceylon Today Date – 16-06-2019

MS Europa 2 selects Aitken Spence Travels To offer shore excursions in Sri Lanka



Hapag-Lloyd's luxury cruise liner the MS Europa 2 called over at the Hambantota Port and the Colombo Port for a four-day stay in Sri Lanka. Aitken Spence Travels Cruise team was responsible for the operation of all the shore excursions for its passengers and was present in both locations to ensure that all guests who had booked a shore excursion was off on their tour on time without any difficulties and operational draw backs.

Of the 330 guests on board, over 200 passengers went on shore excursions in Hambantota, visiting Yala National Park, Udawalawe, Bandula, Ella and Katragama. The unique experiences encountered at Katragama visiting the Buddhist and Hindu temples brings about serenity and peace where some guests go to the extent of sharing their problems and looking for mental peace apart from enjoying the abundance of wildlife Sri Lanka has to offer. Aitken Spence Tours stated in a media release.

On day two, the clients took excursions to Galle, visited the Galle fort and experiencing village tours. When the passengers were in Colombo on the wet gloomy Friday of 7 June, they still went about their Helicopter tours in Kandy, took the Fixed wing flights to Sigiriya, embarked on discovering the Colombo highlights tour and enjoying the first-hand experience of low grown tea plantations. The AST Cruise team also handled the passenger turnaround on 8 June for approximately 250 passengers.

Shore Excursions Manager of MS Europa 2 Werner Beyer, who has been to Sri Lanka previously, personally loves the destination and was of the view that "This country shouldn't suffer as Sri Lanka has so much to offer and I just love this country's diversity. The Cruise team at AST has done

a wonderful job of organising the busses, the guides, diverse excursions and ensuring precision timing that we have had no complaints from our passengers. In effect, since 21 April crisis, MS Europa 2 was considering moving to the Maldives instead of Sri Lanka. But the local team was extremely vigilant and continuously updating us about the security situation of the country, that Hapag-Lloyd did not implement plan B of moving to the Maldives. I am very happy that we didn't move to the Maldives as our clients have shared excellent feedback and reviews of their stay and experiences in Sri Lanka".

Commenting further, Managing Director of Aitken Spence Travels Nalin Jayasundera stated, "When all the other cruise liners were cancelling their tours, MS Europa 2 was confident about destination Sri Lanka and we are glad that they experienced the improved security, visitors would enjoy while in Sri Lanka. We also appreciate the support extended by the Sri Lanka Ports Authority / Hambantota International Port Services and their security teams, the Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau, Hapag Lloyd Lanka (Pvt) Ltd. and our service providers for ensuring that these guests had an enjoyable experience of Sri Lanka taking back memories to last."

Aitken Spence Travels, the largest inbound tour operator in Sri Lanka served more than 200,000 happy visitors during its FY 2018/19. This is also by far the largest number of visitors handled by any Destination Management Company in Sri Lanka and was also the recipient of the Sri Lanka Tourism Awards 2018 as best DMC. The company is backed by JV partners TUI and Aitken Spence PLC, enjoying the best of both worlds, strongly facing the future confidently even after the setbacks faced by the country.



Newspaper – The Island Date – 17-06-2019

Ports Authority official selected for Visitor Leadership Programme in U.S.



Chitral Jayawarna

Chitral Jayawarna, Deputy Chief Manager, Communication and Public Relations in Sri Lanka Ports Authority, is currently visiting the United States of America as the country representative at the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) initiated by the State Department. He was selected by the US embassy in Colombo.

Chitral joined the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) in 2008 as a Senior Manager in the

Marketing and Business Development Division.

The International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) is the U.S. Department of State's premier professional exchange program. Through short-term visits to the United States, current and emerging foreign leaders in a variety of fields experience this country firsthand and cultivate lasting relationships with their American counterparts. Professional meetings reflect the

participants' professional interests and support the foreign policy goals of the United States.

Each year nearly 5,000 International Visitors come to the U.S. on the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP). More than 200,000 International Visitors have engaged with Americans through the IVLP, including more than 500 current or former Chiefs of State or Heads of Government.

Newspaper – Daily FT Date – 17-06-2019



Releasing the rapid Response Afloat Repair Service and BWMS Flyer to Norwegian market. From left: Olvind Qvale, Kjell Fr. Jacobsen, Invoicing and Marketing Senior Engineer Amila Rukshan, Marketing and Ship Repairs Head Darshana Chandrasekera and Marketing and Ship Building Head Prince Lye

Colombo Dockyard gives message to European market on Sri Lanka's return to normalcy

SRI Lanka's pioneer shipbuilding and ship repairing facility, Colombo Dockyard PLC, was the sole participant from Sri Lanka in one of the leading international Shipping Exhibitions 'Nor-Shipping 2019' from 4-7 June in Oslo, Norway.

Under the leadership and guidance of Chairman H. Tanaka and Managing Director/CEO D.V. Abeyasinghe, Colombo Dockyard has taken proactive initiatives to revive the market by spearheading and participating in the maritime forums to educate the fraternity of the latest positive developments.

The main objective at this event was to educate the Norwegian and global shipping fraternity of the developments in Colombo, Sri Lanka after the Easter Sunday incident. The drive was to regain the business confidence of the many ship managers, owners and other service providers to look at Sri Lanka seriously for their repair and building requirements.

Colombo Dockyard has been a regular participant at many marine exhibitions, such as Posidonia Greece, Sea Asia Singapore, SMM Germany, Inmex India and other platforms over the past four decades.

This is the third instance Colombo Dockyard has participated as an active exhibitor at the Nor Shipping. The shipyard has been flying the Sri Lankan flag and promoting Colombo as a competitive repair and building centre in the South Asian region in Europe and Global platforms.

Norwegian ship owners and managers represent a large share of the world's offshore/floating tonnage. This naturally makes them one of the significant market segments for Colombo Dockyard.

This mega international marine exhibition has been a meeting place for European and global shipping fraternity stakeholders such as ship owners, ship managers, shipyards, machinery and equipment suppliers, classification

societies, flag states, shipbrokers to name a few.

This platform was used to inform the market of the latest shipyard developments offerings, such as the newly-formed Rapid Response Afloat repair Service team (RRARS) that can be mobilised swiftly at any Sri Lankan port to attend to multiple types of afloat repairs.

The shipyard's readiness to handle the installation of Ballast Water Management Systems (BWMS) and Scrubbers, which is a requirement as a result of the IMO statutory regulations kicking in on 1 January 2020.

During this event, some of the other key factors highlighted to the potential clients were: Colombo's strategic location close to the main marine trading routes, minimal diversion for vessel's calling to discharge in the Indian coast, quality repair services, safe working environment, Japanese expertise available through our collaboration with Onomichi Dockyard, faster turnaround times and competitive rates.

The shipbuilding sector highlighted the wide product portfolio on offer for complex vessels such as the Cable Laying vessels and offshore vessels sector, mainly our market-proven Anchor Handling Tugs, Offshore Platform Support Vessels, Crew Boats, Coast Guard Vessels, Harbour Tugs, Work Boats, Passenger Ferries and other specialised Vessels.

Colombo Dockyard partnered with Colombo Dockyard's representative in Norway M/s. Ulrik Qvale & Partners AS (UCP), Norway. Kjell Fr. Jacobsen and Olvind Qvale representing the UCP were instrumental in coordinating the exhibition logistics in making the event successful.

Colombo Dockyard team was lead by Marketing and Ship Repairs Head Darshana Chandrasekera, Marketing and Ship Building Head Prince Lye and Senior Engineer - Invoicing and Marketing Amila Rukshan.

Newspaper – Daily FT Date – 17-06-2019

HAMBANTOTA International Port (HIP) was a key participant at 'Transport Logistics 2019', the world's premier transport and logistics exhibition held in Munich, Germany held last week. The port which is the newest addition to the international maritime map was an important feature at the prestigious exposition of international logistical services which had 2,374 exhibitors and around 64,000 visitors from all over the world attending.

The Sri Lankan delegation, of which Hambantota International Port Group (HIPG) representatives were a part of, held several high-powered meetings with decision-makers of Germany's leading logistics and engineering companies. Hellmann Worldwide Logistics, Hapag-Lloyd, Hamburg Port Consulting, Siemens Digital Logistics business, DHL, DB Schenker and Kuehne + Nagel were some of the top-level players they met with. The Lankan delegation

who attended the meetings was headed by Ports, Shipping and Southern Development Minister Sagala Ratnayake while the HIPG team was led by veteran shipping executive and HIPG Chief Operating Officer Tissa Wickramasinghe.

"This is the first time in my entire career that I was challenged with positioning an entire port with all its services. But these are exciting times and we are proud to be trailblazers not only in positioning our multipurpose port but also the opportunity of placing Sri Lanka on the world's maritime map, in an altogether new way," said Tissa Wickramasinghe.

He says, from a marketing point of view, his team's participation in the prestigious exhibition is significant, as it gave them the opportunity to showcase the port to the maritime world. "For us Sri Lankans, Hambantota is a well-known historic port, but to the world at large it is relatively new. No one knows about HIP's deep water capability and the vast area of land surrounding the port, well primed for development."

The COO says the exhibition was the ideal platform for them to display the port's gamut of services coupled

HIP showcased at Transport and Logistics Exhibition in Munich



The team from HIPG at the HIP stall. From left: Manager – Port Related Industry Sabrina Edirisinghe, Assistant General Manager – Commercial and Marketing Bindu Ranasinghe, HIPG COO Tissa Wickramasinghe, Senior Manager – Commercial and Marketing Chandula Rambukwella, and HIPG GM – Operations Sylesh Peerez



From left: Manager – Port Related Industry Sabrina Edirisinghe, Senior Manager – Commercial and Marketing Chandula Rambukwella, HIPG COO Tissa Wickramasinghe, Parliamentary State Secretary Steffen Bilger, Ports, Shipping and Southern Development Minister Sagala Ratnayake, Assistant General Manager – Commercial and Marketing Bindu Ranasinghe, and HIPG GM – Operations Sylesh Peerez



HIPG COO Tissa Wickramasinghe giving a brief account of the marketing and development plan to Minister Sagala Ratnayake at the HIPG stall

with its many strategic advantages.

HIPG, as an organisational strategy, is promoting the multipurpose Hambantota Port as an entirely new proposition. The marketing pitch of the company is based on the variety of cargo and unique port services that are being provided by the port.

The COO says that is the reason why they decided to have their own stall at 'Transport Logistics 2019'. "Although we are one in promoting Sri Lanka, we are also different in our positioning because Hambantota is a multipurpose port, and our priorities and sales pitch is obviously quite different."

HIP's full range of services include container handling, general cargo, RORO, passenger, bunkering, bulk terminal, gas, and project cargo. The port is well on its way to becoming one-of-a-kind in Sri Lanka, as it is the only port in the country designed to handle such a wide range of services in the maritime and logistics fields. HIP which has been gearing for ease of doing business for a while now,

recently partnered with the Sri Lanka's Board of Investment (BOI) to establish a one-stop service centre within the port premises. The centre provides facilitation services, including the granting of investment concessions to prospective investors. HIP which is a Public Private Partnership (PPP) entered into between the SLPA, and global port operator CMAA has not only doubled its RORO services, but has diversified its services to include a number of port related activities such as container handling, general cargo, passenger, bunkering, bulk terminal gas and project cargo. HIPG has signed TSA's with several leading RORO shipping lines, and is well on its way to becoming one-of-a-kind in Sri Lanka.

In addition to its maritime services, the port has drawn a master plan to become a logistics hub in the region, with warehouses, storage areas, and distribution centres being set up within its premises. This location is ideally suited not only because of its strategic position on the maritime map, but also owing to the

approximately 3.5 square kilometres of vast land area, dedicated for port-related industries. An additional 50 square kilometres of land just outside the port perimeter is allocated for an industrial zone, and investments by the GOSL, in utility infrastructure and highway connectivity to the area is already underway.

This maritime and logistics hub is intended to serve as a catalyst to develop a logistics-centred economy. HIP will be the only port in the country designed to handle a full gamut of services in the maritime and logistics area.

Once construction of basic facilities and other infrastructure are in place, the second stage of building standardised warehouses and attracting high value-added industries will begin, followed by upstream, middle and downstream industries in the final phase of the industrial park, which may include food processing and automobile services, amongst others.

HIP is also the only port in the region to supply bunkering facilities to ships calling at the port, and those moving on sea lanes, with IMO-compliant low Sulphur fuel oil. The HIPG has already entered into an agreement with global giant Sinopec who will be their strategic bunkering partner. Located between Singapore and Fujairah, the number one and two bunker suppliers to the world respectively, HIP is well placed to exploit the potential

of this trade. HIP is positioned to be the one-stop logistics platform that caters to all, offering an integrated package that could be tailor made to their customers' needs. Reinforced by Hambantota's geographic location, the port offers an unparalleled experience of air and sea connectivity. In order to achieve these goals, HIP has taken into consideration, their close proximity to the Mattala airport and built processes for air-sea cargo movement.

The Hambantota Port is in line with the national vision for port development in Sri Lanka and responds to the SLPA's future growth plans for a modern port, free of urban restrictions, assuring long-term expansion capacity and a world standard industrial and logistics zone. A platform that can receive main players of port, maritime, industrial and logistics sectors, that adhere to the highest standards of integrity. The Sri Lankan economy is entering a new phase in its development strategies where PPPs are being taken on to synergise the country's approach to meeting market challenges. HIPG is of the belief that these new policies will unlock investments in the micro, small and medium sized sectors, which will indirectly promote a trickle-down effect into the larger economy which would in turn have a direct impact on growth, job opportunities and ultimately prosperity for the nation.

ASIA-PACIFIC is leading the global contract logistics market overtaking Europe. The growth in this region is attributed to the rising retail enactment, strong economic growth, and increase in disposable income in the region. Contract logistics involve the control of the complete comprehensive process, from production to distribution at the final point of sale. Syncing these dynamics, the GAC Group Contract Logistics Conference was hosted by GAC Sri Lanka at the Cinnamon Lakeside Hotel on 20 and 21 May.

The Conference acted as a platform to discuss GAC Group's future endeavours and the business strategy for GAC's contract logistics business. It initiated thought provoking discussions, in depth evaluations of the future of logistics which further paved way to cement global relationships across the group. The conference was attended by foreign and local delegates including: Lars Bergstrom, GAC Group Vice President – Asia Pacific and Indian Subcontinent, Shehara Jayawardana, JT. Managing Director – McLarens Group of Companies, Mahesh Kurukulasuriya, Chief Commercial Officer – McLarens Group of Companies, Ravi Edirisinghe, CEO and Director – GAC Sri Lanka and members from the GAC group senior management including Stuart Bowie, Ronnie Knowles and Daniel Nordberg.

The representation included participants from GAC Singapore, Dubai, Thailand, Malaysia, Qatar and Indonesia. The two days involved strategy brainstorming sessions, presentations and a visit to Spectra Integrated Logistics Facility, GAC Sri Lanka, a subsidiary of the McLarens Group

GAC Group successfully holds contract logistics conference in Colombo



Participants at Cinnamon Lakeside - Colombo



Participants' visit to Spectra integrated logistics facility



Conference participants from GAC Group

of Companies, is known for its comprehensive range of professional shipping, marine and logistics services that cater to vessels at all four ports in the country. GAC Logistics Sri Lanka and Hemas Transportation operates a container yard with a capacity of 6,000 TEUs amalgamated with a distribution centre with over 20,000 pallet positions at their joint integrated logistics facility in the Muthurajawela Industrial Zone, Wattala.

The facility branded as Spectra Logistics is currently one of Sri Lanka's biggest integrated logistics providers offering end-to-end logistics services to clients. With a network of over 300 GAC offices worldwide, GAC is one of those few global companies offering the entire array of logistics services under a single umbrella covering; contract logistics, freight services, land transportation, project logistics, supply chain management and

international moving. Despite the recent tragic events that occurred within the country, it is noteworthy to appreciate the delegates from GAC world to participate in this scheduled event in Sri Lanka, supporting our efforts in promoting Sri Lanka as a safe location to promote global logistics and services. The country has regained its confidence and has returned to normalcy. McLarens Group of Companies JT. Managing Director Shehara Jayawardana commented, "It was indeed a privilege to have the opportunity to host a conference of this nature during these difficult times faced by our country. I am indeed grateful to the delegates who came down to participate and share their knowledge and expertise. It sends a very clear message to investors that Sri Lanka still is and will always be a country with immense potential and opportunity in the global logistics industry."

Commenting on the

conference, Cinnamon Lakeside General Manager Rohan Fernandopulle stated, "Despite the recent setback which trembled the country causing cancellations and postponing of events, GAC Sri Lanka decided to proceed with their event as planned. My sincere thanks go out to GAC group of companies for placing their trust in Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo and in Sri Lanka. It gives me immense pleasure that the conference was a great success, especially considering the positive feedback received from the organisers and participants representing six foreign countries. We anticipate that more such events would help build confidence in the travel and tourism industry."

As a leading player in the local logistics industry, GAC Sri Lanka would continuously strive to uphold the logistics business opportunities available for Sri Lanka despite challenging macro environmental conditions in the country.

Newspaper – Daily FT Date – 17-06-2019



Invitees at the stage

Colombo Dockyard lays keels of two pilot launches being built for Sri Lanka Ports Authority

ON 11 June, Colombo Dockyard PLC (CDPLC) laid the keels to auspiciously commence shipbuilding work on two pilot launches as per an agreement signed with Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) on 1 February. The contract was signed after CDPLC successfully won the international tender for the said project.

This keel laying ceremony marked the commencement of hull construction work of the two pilot launches and the auspicious occasion was graced by Minister of Ports and Shipping and Southern Development Sagala Ratnayaka, Ministry of Ports and Shipping and Southern Development Secretary Admiral S.S. Ranasinghe, SLPA Chairman Kavan Ratnayake, Department of Merchant Shipping Director General Ajith Seneviratne, SLPA Managing Director Captain Athula Hewavitharana, SLPA Additional Managing Director Upali de Zoysa, SLPA Director Operations Jayantha Perera, SLPA Harbour Master Capt. Nirmal Silva and several other distinguished guests from SLPA and Lloyds Register Business Development Manager (South Asia) Anil Kumar



Dignitaries on top of the keel laying platform

offered their blessings for the project.

Onomichi Dockyard Co. Ltd. Japan President T. Nakabe, CDPLC Chairman H. Tanaka, CDPLC Vice Chairman Sarath De Costa, CDPLC MD/CEO

Colombo Dockyard participated at this momentous occasion.

The 19m pilot launch is a proven design developed by MACDUFF of Scotland. The pilot launch will serve to transport pilots from shore to ship. The pilot launch can accommodate a total number of eight persons including four crew members and four pilots and it can achieve a service speed around 22 knots.

The pilot launch is designed to hold a high degree of stability and comfort in all weather conditions and these pilot launches will provide a stable platform during embarking and disembarking pilots. The pilot launches shall be equipped with state-of-the-art machinery and equipment developed for this type of launches worldwide, which are of proven type with high

dependability, durability and suitability for the intended purpose.

By building the pilot launches in Sri Lanka, SLPA helps develop the economy of the country by developing the local shipbuilding industry. The local ventures such as CDPLC generate large number of direct and indirect employment opportunities and develop the skills and technical knowhow of the local workmen and help save on valuable foreign exchange.

CDPLC operates in joint collaboration with Onomichi Dockyard Company Ltd. of Japan who owns a stake of 51% at Colombo Dockyard PLC while Sri Lankan Government institutions have a 35% shareholding at Colombo Dockyard.

As the leader of shipbuilding industry in Sri Lanka, CDPLC continuously proves its excellence by successfully securing shipbuilding projects both local and worldwide. Currently, CDPLC is building a 113 m Cable Laying Vessel for Japan and a 60 m Buoy Tender Vessel and a 50 m Pilot Station Vessel for Iraq.

CDPLC is the front runner of Sri Lankan industrialisation and is one of the main contributors to the Government's National Export Strategy from the shipbuilding sector.



Pilot launch

D.V. Abeysinghe, CDPLC Director K. Kanaya, CDPLC Technical Advisor Yusihiro Saki, General Manager (Shipbuilding) Lal Hettiarachchi, General Manager (New Construction) Thimira Godakumbura and a host of other senior management and staff representing

Aitken Spence facilitates luxury cruise ship MS Europa call on two ports in Sri Lanka

THE luxury cruise ship 'MS Europa 2', owned by German operator Hapag-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten Hamburg, recently called on the Ports of Hambantota and Colombo from 5 to 8 June with 309 passengers and 356 crew onboard.

Aitken Spence Maritime is the agent in Sri Lanka for Hapag-Lloyd which is one of the largest container shipping lines in the world. MS Europa and MS Europa 2 are the only cruise ships in the world classified with five-star rating by the legendary Berlitz Cruise Guide. MS Europa 2 is regarded as the new jewel of the Hapag-Lloyd Cruises fleet.

MS Europa 2 offers the highest level of casual luxury with a maximum of 500 guests. All passenger suites are equipped with their own veranda and at least 28 sqm of living space to ensure ample space per passenger.

The ship is one of the most spacious cruise ships on the market and is intended for the luxury cruise segment of the German market. Every year MS Europa 2 sets sail on its journey around the world to visit ports that are unreachable by other ships due to its size. To commemorate her call a ceremony was held at the Port of Colombo on 7 June.

"We are extremely delighted that Aitken Spence Maritime facilitated the first cruise ship to call on two ports of Sri Lanka after the

unfortunate incidents that took place in April. It is also encouraging for the team to see their efforts materialise and with the Group's active involvement in the leisure industry, the company will continue to offer comprehensive synergised services to cruise operators," said Aitken Spence Maritime Managing Director Iqram Cuttilan.

"Hapag-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten having made frequent calls to Trincomalee, Hambantota, Galle and Colombo will also include their ships in its schedule for 2019/20. In fact, Hapag-Lloyd Kreuzfahrten has selected Sri Lankan Ports as the beginning and end of their voyages, enabling passengers to embark and disembark in Sri Lanka," said Hapag-Lloyd Lanka Assistant Vice President Lalith Witanachchi.

Hapag-Lloyd's local agent, Aitken Spence Maritime, is a pioneer in the industry and was the first in Sri Lanka to undertake port efficiency enhancement management overseas with its entry into the African Continent and subsequently the South Pacific Islands. The company handles all areas of maritime services – from ship agents and cargo handlers, to liner agency, cruise vessel, port management and development, chartering services and maritime education.



Newspaper – Daily FT Date – 18-06-2019



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Ceylon Chamber event to focus on rebuilding business confidence

THE Power of Interaction Series is a networking evening organised by the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce with the intention of providing its membership an opportunity to interact with Senior Government Officials of a particular sector.

The first session for this year will be on the theme of 'Rebuilding Business Confidence in Sri Lanka'. The keynote address will be by BOI Chairman P.B. Mangala Yapa followed by a panel discussion with Airport and Aviation Services (Sri Lanka) Ltd. Chairman D. Ranatunga, Sri Lanka Ports Authority Chairman Kavan Ratnayaka, Sri Lanka Customs Director

T. Ravindrarajah, Hemas Pharmaceuticals and Hemas Logistics and Maritime Cluster Managing Director Kasturi Chellarajah Wilson.

The panel discussion will be moderated by Ceylon Chamber of Commerce Chief Economist Shiran Fernando. Following the panel discussion, participants will be able to interact with these officials in a networking session.

The event will take place on 25 June at the Union Ballroom of Hilton Colombo Residencies starting at 6 p.m.

For registration,

Contact – 11 55 888 82

Email – events@chamber.lk / satheesha@chamber.lk.

Newspaper – Daily FT Date – 18-06-2019

Port Chief says new deal for critical ECT best fit and win-win

- Joint venture Terminal Operating Company will have SLPA as controlling shareholder with 51% stake and Japanese and Indian investors holding the balance
- Phase 1 will have capacity of 3 million TEUs followed by an equal amount in Second Phase
- Cost is estimated at \$ 500 m to be financed by favourable terms and long-term Japanese loan
- New deal optimises revenue and enables operationalisation of ECT with least impact on SLPA says Chairman

By NISTHAR CASSIM

SRI Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) yesterday justified the new deal for the crucial East Container Terminal (ECT) was the best fit given the State-owned entity's need to remain viable and to sustain Colombo's hub status in South Asia.

The Government recently decided to take a bilateral route involving Japan and India to



SLPA Chairman Kavan Ratnayaka

operationalise the ECT which has been languishing without the desired progress after the SLPA invested \$ 100 million on it. Earlier the Government called for Expression of Interests from the private sector with a condition bidding consortia should include an Indian company among other criteria.

Chairman Kavan Ratnayaka clarified yesterday that a SLPA-owned and controlled ECT with a Japan-India-Sri Lanka joint venture Terminal Operating Company (TOC) serves the best interest of the State entity as well as the overall Colombo port,

development partners and the national interest. The SLPA will own 51% stake in the TOC and the balance 49% by Japan and India jointly.

The deal also includes a 40-year Japanese loan which carries one of the best loan terms Sri Lanka has obtained.

He said that SLPA-managed Jaya Container Terminals (JCT 1 to 4) are running out of capacity as well as require modernisation hence a greater stake in ECT was critical. "This agreement optimises revenue and enables operationalisation of ECT with least impact on SLPA," Ratnayaka added.

Colombo port's current capacity with JCT, South Asia Gateway Terminals (SAGT) and Colombo International Container Terminals (CICT) is 7.5 million Twenty-foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) and last year volumes handled amounted to 7 million TEUs, up by 13.5% from 2017. 80% of the volume are transshipment.

More Page 2

Port Chief...

SLPA's ownership stake in SAGT and CICT terminal operators is 15% each.

Currently, Colombo Port is ranked 11th in connectivity (Drewery, 2018) and 22nd among global ports (AlphaIndex, 2018) and is one of the fastest growing in the world.

As per the National Port Master Plan completed early this year by NIRAS mtbs and funded by the Asian Development Bank and Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction, the base case demand for transshipment via Colombo port is forecast to be 5.8 million TEUs by 2025 and to 6.4 million TEUs by 2030 and 12.6 million TEUs by 2050. The high case transshipment demand forecast is estimated at 7.3 million TEUs by 2025 and 8.5 million TEUs by 2030 and to 21 million TEUs by 2050.

The base case demand for domestic containers (import-export) is 2.1 million TEUs by 2025, 2.5 million TEUs by 2030 and 3.2 million TEUs by 2050; the high case scenario is 2.2 million TEUs by 2025, 2.7 million TEUs by 2030 and 4 million TEUs by 2050. In that context, Ratnayaka believes the envisaged new partnership will help the Port of Colombo to continue growth and further improve its position as a competitive hub in South Asia. He said industry associations such as CASA and SLAVO have welcomed the move.

ECT phase will add 3 million TEUs capacity followed by an equal number in the second phase. Estimated cost for the operation of the entire ECT is approximately \$ 500 million which would be funded by the proposed Japanese loan.

Ratnayaka said that if everything goes as planned, the ECT will be properly operational within 12 to 18 months.

Additionally, SLPA will also develop JCT 5 with an investment of \$ 50 million and modernise JCT 3 and 4 with around \$ 60 million.

SLPA's master plans include development of West Container Terminal and a North Container Terminal in the Colombo port.

Newspaper – Ceylon Today Date – 18-06-2019

After development C'bo Harbour ECT to remain SLPA's

By BUDDHIKA SAMARAWEERA

Chairman of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA), Kavan D. Ratnayaka said that the East Container Terminal (ECT) of the Colombo Harbour would be fully owned by the SLPA, even after signing the agreement with the Governments of India and Japan for its development. He further said that a plan has been suggested to set up a company to operate the ECT, and 51 per cent of its shares would be held by the SLPA, while Japan and India would have 49 per cent stake.

"This is not a project under the Board of Investments (BoI) of Sri Lanka and both India and Japan would have to pay taxes to the Government of Sri Lanka when they would start making profits out of their investments," Ratnayaka added while addressing the Media in his office in Colombo, yesterday (17).

He further said that the development of the ECT would be carried out by the SLPA with Japanese funds, adding that the loan of US\$ 400 million to be obtained from Japan would have to be repaid within 40 years, after a 10-year grace period, at a 0.1 per cent interest rate.

"The first phase of the ECT has already been completed and Japan would give us a loan of US\$ 400 million to complete its second phase and buy certain equipment needed to operate the ECT, like cranes," he said.

Ratnayaka further noted that the West Container Terminal (WCT) of the Colombo Harbour would also be developed after the development of the ECT, and that the matter of obtaining loans for that had not been decided yet.

CCC to host networking event for private sector to meet Govt officials

The Ceylon Chamber of Commerce (CCC) will be hosting a networking session titled 'Rebuilding Business Conference in Sri Lanka' on 25 June at the Hilton Colombo Residencies Union Ballroom.

The event is a part of its 'Power of Interaction' series of programmes that aim to provide CCC members the opportunity to interact with senior Government officials in their particular sector.

This initial event will feature a keynote address by Board of Investment Chairman, P.B. Mangala

Yapa, followed by a panel discussion with Airport and Aviation Services Chairman, D. Ranatunga, Ports Authority Chairman, Kavan Ratnayaka, Customs Director, T. Ravindrarajah, and Hemas Pharmaceuticals and Hemas Logistics and Maritime Cluster MD, Kasturi Chellarajah Wilson. The discussion will be moderated by CCC Chief Economist, Shiran Fernando.

Interested parties may register for the event via 115 588 882 or events@chamber.lk / satheesha@chamber.lk.

'Port automation will attract more women'

CHANDANI JAYATILLEKE

Sri Lanka's current extensive port development programs will create more employment opportunities for women in the future, a port industry expert said.

"With automation, the opportunities for women to work in the port field will grow, as some of the jobs will change and offer a better working environment where the employees can operate from modern offices rather than being in the field. For instance, a crane operator no longer needs to do that job by sitting on a crane. Instead the operators can work from an office," Ananda S. Premachandra, a port industry expert said at a meeting held yesterday at the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) to discuss port development projects.

At present SLPA employs nine women crane operators.

Ports are busy places and hundreds of people are needed to work in many

different areas and manage efficiency levels of a port. However, in Sri Lanka, as in ports elsewhere, most port jobs are done by a male-dominated workforce. About 300 SLPA employees are retiring each year. With rapidly advancing technology, there will be a growing demand for more women to enter the field. Women maritime industry professionals have been working tirelessly to attract a 'more diverse workforce' and to remove poor perceptions about career opportunities in the port, maritime and logistics sectors in Sri Lanka over the past several years.

Sri Lankan women professionals are yet to own a reasonable stake in the transport and logistics sector's growing opportunities. In a country where women

women in the industry are confident that the next generation of women has a great potential to enter the industry in big numbers, if the current 'male-dominated' policies and rules are relaxed and young ones are properly educated about the opportunities in this profession.



Crane operators at SLPA

represent 52 percent of the population, women's stake in the logistics sector is only 3%. If you study the women representation in the top five logistics companies in the country, the numbers will speak of that 'absence'.

Leading

Japanese delegation in talks on East Container Terminal working group

CHANDANI JAYATILLEKE

A 20-member Japanese group is currently in Sri Lanka to discuss and work on a 'joint working group' to develop the East Container Terminal (ECT) located in the Colombo South Port.

"The group is currently in discussion to determine what the working group should look like," Chairman, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, Kavan Ratnayaka said.

Sri Lanka, Japan and India in May jointly signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) to launch the development of the ECT project.

The three governments will work out details based on the MoC at joint working group meetings, and advance their cooperation towards early commencement of work and operation of the ECT.

Ratnayaka said, SLPA retains 100% ownership of ECT. The Terminal Operations Company (TOC) con-

Location : East Container Terminal Stage-1, Colombo Port, Sri Lanka



Layout Plan



East Container Terminal –Stage 1 (SLPA photo)

ducting all East Container Terminal operations is jointly owned; Sri Lanka retains

a 51% stake, and the joint venture partners to purchase a 49% stake.

The envisaged Japanese loan carries one of the best loan terms Sri Lanka has obtained. The 51% stake is also one of the best in SLPA joint ownership endeavors. SLPA's majority ownership in the new TOC represents a significant step in prioritizing National Interests, he told a meeting held at the SLPA yesterday.

Explaining the rationale behind the ECT project and the model they are currently working on, Ratnayaka said it is vital to retain the Colombo's dominant position as a hub port in the region with modern expansion programs.

The National Port Master Plan funded by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) says Colombo port is a leader in the Indian Ocean as a transshipment hub port and should stay competitive with other national and international transshipment ports. To achieve this, focus should be on operational

Japanese delegation... From page i

excellence on the marine services, cargo handling service, auxiliary functions and on international traffic.

Therefore, port plans are adjusted and future capacity is planned for in

order to stay ahead of demand. Innovations and new technologies will support this development, according to the Master Plan. To match the future demands and requirements, Ratnayaka

said, the Port complex is getting a facelift soon and new spaces will be created for offices and special job fields with the setting up of a maritime facilitation centre in the premises.

Newspaper – Daily Mirror Date – 18-06-2019

SLPA to invest US \$ 110mn to modernise JCT

The Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) plans to invest US \$ 110 million to upgrade the outdated equipment of the Jaya Container Terminal (JCT).

The upgrade will include replacing the cranes of JCT 3 and JCT 4.

Further, the SLPA plans to invest in terminal facilities deploying new gate systems and new IT systems in the terminal.

SLPA Director Sarathkumara Premachandra said that the modernisation of the JCT would be implemented in a phased-out manner, within a period of 10 years.

MORE ON P4

SLPA to invest...

The JCT is currently operating with cranes that are over 20 years old.

SLPA Chairman Kavan Ratnayaka said that the new operational model mooted for the East Container Terminal (ECT) would reduce the burden on the SLPA, allowing them to move ahead with the modernisation of the JCT.

Despite the trend towards deploying larger vessels, which would require deeper draft terminals to cater to, Premachandra noted that medium-sized vessels would still be in use in particular for niche trade between regions such as Australia and Africa.

"As the Colombo Port grows to the next level with deeper draft terminals coming up in the south port, the demand for large feeders will grow simultaneously and the niche trade won't use large ships.

Elevating the status of the JCT into the next level, we are actually creating facilities for cascading ships," he elaborated.

Ratnayaka also agreed that the JCT in the future potentially could be converted to a feeder terminal for containers.

Further, the SLPA is also on the process of investing US \$ 50 million on JCT 5, as a separate project.

The SLPA received the Cabinet approval in April to purchase three ships-to-shore cranes worth US \$ 25 million, for JCT 5.

Newspaper – Daily Mirror Date – 18-06-2019

Delaying ECT could risk Colombo Port's hub status

- Delays in operationalising ECT could result in 15% loss in transshipment volumes
- SLPA-managed JCT alone likely to lose 50% of transshipment business
- One SLPA trade union has objected to SLPA-Japan-India deal to develop ECT
- ECT would mitigate risk of global consortiums leaving Colombo Port due to lack of capacity

■ By Nishel Fernando

Further delays in operationalising the East Container Terminal (ECT) would jeopardise the Colombo Port's transshipment hub status, according to Sri Lanka Port Authority (SLPA) Chairman Kavan Ratnayaka.

He said it could potentially lead to over 15 percent loss in transshipment volumes for the



Kavan Ratnayaka

Colombo Port while the SLPA-managed Jaya Container Terminal (JCT) alone may lose 50 percent of its transshipment business.

Ratnayaka made these remarks as some parties, including the SLPA trade unions, had objected to the formation of a terminal operating company (TOC) between the SLPA and the nominated parties from Japan and India, to develop the ECT.

"The stakeholders have raised their concerns on the Colombo Port running out-of capacity. As the SLPA, we are particularly

concerned on Maersk and Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC).

We need to reassure their management, which plans the way out into the future that we are a port that can be trusted and we will provide them with the capacity required," Ratnayaka told reporters in Colombo, yesterday.

Sri Lanka, India and Japan recently signed a memorandum of cooperation (MoC) for the development of the ECT.

MORE ON P4

Delaying ECT could...

According to the MoC, the SLPA would retain 100 percent ownership of the ECT and a TOC will be formed between the SLPA and nominated partners from Japan and India, of which the SLPA would hold a 51 percent stake.

Ratnayaka pointed out that the development of the ECT was held back for four years due to a controversy created from the procurement of cranes for the ECT.

However, he noted that so far one trade union had objected to the new arrangement while some have backed the deal.

"If one global consortium gets up and leaves Sri Lanka, we would lose 15 percent of our businesses; it could be even more and we will no longer be considered a hub.

The major part of what we are trying to protect is the hub status. The moment we lose the hub status, the businesses will get up and leave. Another competitive port will take the advantage of such a situation; this could even be the Hambantota Port," he elaborated.

Maersk and MSC are the world's largest container shipping lines by capacity. According to the SLPA, MSC alone accounts for 50 percent of transshipment volumes of the JCT.

"The trade unions have to realise that the ECT is needed for their survival. They have more at stake. Without the ECT, we can't keep the JCT running and it will affect everybody's well-being and salaries," Ratnayaka pointed out.

The SLPA is expecting to receive a US \$ 500 million concessionary loan from Japan International Cooperation Agency, at 0.1 percent interest rate, with a 10-year grace period and a 40-year tenure.

"We are also in discussions with them on the earlier loans taken for the JCT at an approximate interest of 2.4 percent. We are requesting those loans to be included into the new loan at the interest of 0.1 percent," Ratnayaka said.

The government plans to form the TOC with the nominated parties of Japan and India in three months.

The SLPA has requested Japan, which is the lead investor, to nominate a consortium, including a shipping

Newspaper – Daily News Date – 19-06-2019

India, B'desh to support Colombo Port's transshipment business

East India, West India and Bangladesh will remain Sri Lanka's key markets for transshipment containers, accounting for an estimated 89.9% of throughput in 2050,

According to the National Port Master Plan completed in March 2019 by NIRAS mtbs and funded by the Asian Development Bank and Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction, the base case demand for transshipment via Colombo port is forecast to be 5.8 million TEUs by 2025 and to 6.4 million TEUs by 2030 and 12.6 million TEUs by 2050. The high case transshipment demand forecast is estimated at 7.3 million TEUs by 2025 and 8.5 million TEUs by 2030 and to 21 million TEUS by 2050. The base case demand for domestic containers (import-export) is 2.1 million TEUs by 2025, 2.5 million TEUs by 2030 and 3.2 million TEUs by 2050; the high case scenario is 2.2 million TEUs by 2025, 2.7 million TEUS by 2030 and 4 million TEUS by 2050. The Master plan predicts, annual transshipment volumes are estimated to increase from 3.89 million TEU in 2015 to 12.67 million TEU in 2050.

“A dip in volumes can be observed around 2030, due to the expected implementation of several competitive projects. Due to increasing direct trade shares and increasing pressure from competing transshipment hub groups, growth of transshipment volumes is expected to decelerate after 2035.”

Newspaper – Daily News Date – 19-06-2019

HIP joins WISTA Sri Lanka to build gender diversity awareness

In a bid to increase awareness of gender diversity in the workplace, the Hambantota International Port (HIP), partnered with the Sri Lankan arm of the Women's International Shipping and Trading Association, WISTA.

The association together with the port team launched a programme for ships calling at the Hambantota Port.

The seafaring profession is largely male-dominated.

Ray Ren, CEO of the Hambantota International Port Group (HIPG) says, "It is probably due to the male dominated factor that women have not considered career paths in the shipping industry very seriously. No doubt that seafaring could be a challenging job for women, and that is the reason why proper safeguards are a requirement. Women may fear to enter this profession as they would anticipate facing harassment and little support from their co-workers, considering seafaring has so far been known to be mostly an all male environment. This needs to change and we believe this programme we have launched with WISTA Sri Lanka, is an initial step on our part in impacting this sector."

HIP kicked off the programme at an event held onboard vessel SHOHJIN, which called at the port recently. A booklet on gender diversity was presented to the Captain of the vessel.

Wahidul Haque, at the ceremony. The port plans to hand over a book to each vessel that calls at HIP from now on.

The publication by Anglo-Eastern Ship Management Limited and the International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN), addresses issues for behaviour between men and women working together on-board.

It addresses major challenges of Discrimination, Sexual harassment, Isolation and Attitude and aims to encourage seafarers not to turn a blind eye to the

issues, but to make a conscious effort to be more sensitive to individual differences onboard.

HIP is in the process of broadening the scope of their workforce, creating equal opportunities to all, especially opening up jobs for women in the area.

The gender diversity awareness campaign is spearheaded by WISTA Sri Lanka and sponsored by HIP. WISTA Sri Lanka, a member of WISTA International is part of a global organization connecting female executives and decision makers around the world. WISTA International serves as a connector for its network of more than 3,000 female professionals from all sectors of the maritime industry.

More than 40 countries support the National WISTA Association (NWA), each of which in turn is a member of and is guided by WISTA International.

Attending on behalf of WISTA Sri Lanka were President of the Association, Rukshila Anthony, Catriona Jayasundera, Vice President and Ishani Caldera, Head of the press committee and Media coordinator. Also present at the ceremony were Ray Ren, CEO of Hambantota International Port Group (HIPG), Tissa Wickramasinghe, COO of HIPG, Jeevan Premasara, GM HR, Sylesh Peerez, GM Operations, Chandula Rambukwella, Senior Manager - Commercial & Marketing, Sabrina Edirisinghe, Manager - Port Related Industry, Jayanthi Gamachige Executive - Commercial and Marketing and Ewmi Kurukulasuriya, Graduate Trainee- Commercial and Marketing.

The Hambantota Port is managed by Hambantota International Port Group (HIPG) and Hambantota International Port Services (HIPPS), two new companies set up by China Merchants Port Holdings (CMPH) and the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA).



The booklet on gender diversity being handed over to Captain of the Vessel SHOHJIN, Capt. Wahidul Haque by President of WISTA Sri Lanka, Rukshila Anthony. Staff of Hambantota International Port and representatives of WISTA Sri Lanka were also present at this ceremony.

Newspaper – Ceylon Today Date – 19-06-2019

INS Ranvir arrives in C'mbo



The Indian Naval Ship (INS) Ranvir arrived at the Colombo Harbour on a goodwill visit yesterday (18).

Upon her arrival at the Port of Colombo, Commanding Officer of the ship, Captain Chetan Chandereve called on Commander Western Naval Area, Rear Admiral Sumith Weerasinghe and held a discussion.

INS Ranvir is expected to conclude her Sri Lankan visit and set sail tomorrow (20).

Newspaper – Ceylon Today Date – 20-06-2019

Ports Minister attends German-Asian Business Dialogue

The 4th German-Asian Business Dialogue was held on 5 June 2019 at the Alliance Forum in Berlin. Chief of Staff of the Prime Minister and Minister of Ports and Shipping, Sagala Ratnayaka, attended the Dialogue as a special guest and was a panellist at the Ministers' Dialogue on 'Building Bridges between Europe and Asia: Chances and Challenges of Free Trade in a Changing World'.

During the Ministers' Dialogue, the Minister highlighted the significance of Sri Lanka in the world map due to its strategic location, and the potential for Sri Lanka to further develop as a logistics hub.

Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy of Germany, Peter Altmaier, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh, Shahriar Alam, and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Maldives, Abdulla Shahid, were the



other panellists in the Minister's Dialogue.

At the closure of the session, responding to the panellists, the German Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy requested the respective countries to forward proposals for trade facilitation, for the consideration of Germany.

Ambassador Eng. Karunasena Hettiarachchi and officials from the Sri Lankan Embassy in Berlin accompanied the Minister at the

event.

On the following day, Minister Ratnayaka attended a Breakfast Meeting held in the Parliament premises with the diplomatic core, representatives from German Chambers and business leaders. The current situation in Sri Lanka, potential for FDIs from Germany and Sri Lanka's participation in the Belt and Road Initiative were among the many topics discussed during the Meeting.

Newspaper – Daily FT Date – 21-06-2019

■ **Beats terminals in China, Indonesia and Thailand to win coveted AFLAS award in Under 4 million TEUs category**

THE CMA Port managed Colombo International Container Terminal (CICT), the only deep water terminal in the Port of Colombo, has been voted the Best Container Terminal in Asia in the Under 4 million TEUs category at the prestigious Asian Freight, Logistics and Supply Chain (AFLAS) Awards hosted and presented by Asia Cargo News.

This is the third consecutive year that CICT

CICT voted Best Container Terminal in Asia for 3rd successive year

has won this award intended to honour organisations for demonstrating leadership as well as consistency in service quality, innovation, customer relationship management, and reliability.

The awards ceremony was held at the Asia Society Hong Kong Centre, Hong Kong, following a nomination and voting process that allowed more than 15,000 readers of Asia Cargo News and e-news subscribers to first determine the leading companies in the market



CICT General Manager - Operations Kumar Siriwardane (left) accepts the AFLAS 2019 award on behalf of CICT from Incheon International Airport Corp. Director Young Nam Park

and then select the winners, making the results the opinion of service users rather than that of a panel of judges.

[More Page 8](#)

Continuation from Page 1

CICT...

To win the award in its category, CICT had to compete with the top eight shortlisted terminals nominated on the basis of criteria that were laid down by the publication and face a technical evaluation.

The evaluation process included asking readers of Asia Cargo News open-ended questions to nominate their preferred container terminals in 48 categories. Nominees had to adhere to criteria standards encompassing higher operational productivity, efficient turnaround of trucks delivering and picking up containers; provision of suitable container shipping-related

infrastructure; cost competitiveness; customer service level and customer satisfaction; timely and adequate investment in new facilities to meet future demand; innovative operating environment; facilitation of ancillary services and ease of doing business activities; and effective and easy-to-use IT systems.

The other three terminals among the top four in the Under 4 million TEUs category were DaChan Bay Terminals (China), Jakarta International Container Terminal (Indonesia), and Laem Chabang International Terminal (Thailand).

Commenting on CICT winning this award for the third consecutive year,

the company's CEO Jack Huang said:

"The award is a testament to CICT's dedication to consistent delivery of high levels of service to the global shipping lines that use our terminal. It is through their votes that we have once again been bestowed this honour, and we pledge to maintain and exceed their expectations in the future. The commitment to excellence by members of 'Team CICT' warrants special mention, as it is their hard work that ultimately culminates in our achievements."

The 2019 AFLAS Awards ceremony that was held in Hong Kong was attended by leading service providers including air and shipping lines; airports and seaports; logistics, third

party logistics providers and other associated supply chain industry professionals representing every region and continent in the world.

Written by leading transport and cargo industry journalists, Asia Cargo News is a vital source of intelligence for cargo, logistics and supply chain companies located in and doing business in Asia. The newspaper includes a range of in-depth features, news and analysis designed to meet the information needs of industry decision-makers.

CICT is the first and currently the only deep water terminal in South Asia equipped with facilities to handle the largest vessels afloat. Since its inception in 2014, the terminal has incremen-

tally grown the volume it has handled, from 686,639 TEUs in 2014 to 1.66 million TEUs in 2015; 2 million TEUs in 2016; 2.38 million TEUs in 2017 and 2.68 million TEUs in 2018.

In its last four full years of operation, CICT has brought some of the largest vessels plying the Asia-Europe routes to Colombo. Of these, Milan Maersk (20,566 TEU), Ever Golden (20,388), MSC Maya (19,224 TEU), Mogens Maersk (18,300 TEU), MSC New York (16,852 TEU), CMA CGM Marco Polo (16,020 TEU), Edith Maersk and EMC Thalassa Hellas (each 14,000 plus TEUs), and their sister vessels are now regular callers at CICT.

Newspaper – The Island Date – 21-06-2019

Colombo Port modernization to cost \$ 500 million

By STEVE A. MORRELL

Although Colombo Port holds a key position in container traffic and transit shipping in the region, the Jaya Container Terminal (JCT) would be upgraded to handle large shipping. Some 20 years since its establishment, influx of large container shipping would necessitate modernization of infrastructure and replacement of cranes to ensure Colombo's efficient handling of cargo and transit shipping would attract terminal operators, chairman, Sri Lanka Ports Authority Kavan Ratnayake said.

'Colombo continued to be described as the no. 1 shipping port in South East Asia and is additionally placed 11th world wide. It is about time Colombo Port's infrastructure is simultaneously modernized to meet the changing demand for appropriate facilities the chairman said at a press briefing recently.

Ratnayake added: 'Terminals 1 & 2, 3 & 4 and 5, were installed to handle 120 to 200 capacity container traffic but are now redundant when faced with handling 3000 capacity traffic expected in the future.

'Port expansion would include depth dredging within an area of approximate-



Chairman SLPA Kavan Ratnayake

ly 1200 acres of harbour space.

'Stage 1 of the East Container terminal, for example, would be expanded to include quay length of 440 meters, ensuring capacity to handle 800,000 TEUs at a water depth of 18 meters. Expansion would also include a passenger terminal.

'The South Asia Gateway Terminal (SAGT) would also be included in envisaged expansion plans. The overall plans would cost about 500 million dollars.'

Questioned by the press on the importance of Colombo in comparison to the Middle East port of Salala, Ratnayake said Colombo is now the hub and was recognized internationally for quick cargo handling ensuring low cost and minimal delays. He said the problem of the Colombo Port being a hot bed of industrial disputes was now past history. Industrial peace was achieved by the authorities' constant dialogue with labour unions. Rewards were bestowed to each industrious worker. He also said some 2000 job vacancies would be filled to ensure continuous, efficient handling of the work load.

'Women would be recruited not for manual work but to ensure their utilization in the handling of cranes and similar work functions. An increase in the number of women would be necessitated by the need to ensure work efficiency in the port.

The ports of Galle, Hambantota, Trincomalee and Olivil would also be developed. Galle would be developed as a tourist destination, Hambantota would be developed to operate as a free port, Trinco as an industries related port and Olivil as a fisheries harbour, the chairman said.

Newspaper – Daily News Date – 21-06-2019

CICT voted Best Container Terminal in Asia for 3rd successive year

Beats China, Indonesia and Thailand

The CMPort managed Colombo International Container Terminal (CICT), the only deep water terminal in the Port of Colombo, has been voted the Best Container Terminal in Asia in the Under 4 million TEUs category at the prestigious Asian Freight, Logistics and Supply Chain (AFLAS) Awards hosted and presented by Asia Cargo News.

This is the third consecutive year that CICT has won this award intended to honour organisations for demonstrating leadership as well as consistency in service quality, innovation, customer-relationship management and reliability. The awards ceremony was held at the Asia Society Hong Kong Center, Hong Kong, following a nomination and voting process that allowed more than 15,000 readers of Asia Cargo News and e-news subscribers to first determine the leading companies in the market, and then select the winners, making the results the opinion of service users rather than a panel of judges.

To win the award in its category, CICT had to compete with the top eight shortlisted terminals nominated on the basis of criteria that were laid down by the publication and face a



CICT General Manager, Operations Kumar Siriwardane accepts the AFLAS 2019 award on behalf of CICT from Incheon International Airport Corp Director Young Nam Park.

technical evaluation. The evaluation process included asking readers of Asia Cargo News open-ended questions to nominate their preferred container terminals in 48 categories.

Nominees had to adhere to criteria standards encompassing higher operational productivity, efficient turnaround of trucks delivering and picking up containers; provision of suitable container

shipping-related infrastructure; cost competitiveness, customer service level and customer satisfaction; timely and adequate investment in new facilities to meet future demand; innovative operating environment, facilitation of ancillary services and ease of doing business activities; and effective and easy-to-use IT systems.

To page v

CICT voted Best... From page i

The other three terminals among the top four in the Under 4 million TEUs category were DaChan Bay Terminals (China), Jakarta International Container Terminal (Indonesia), and Laem Chabang International Terminal (Thailand).

Commenting on CICT winning this award for the third consecutive year, the company's CEO Jack Huang said: "The award is a testament to CICT's dedication to consistent delivery of high levels of service to the global shipping lines that use our terminal. It is through their votes that we have once again been bestowed this honour, and we

pledge to maintain and exceed their expectations in the future. The commitment to excellence by members of 'Team CICT' warrants special mention, as it is their hard work that ultimately culminates in our achievements."

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Japan offers one billion yen to develop strategic Trincomalee port

by Zacki Jabbar

Japan has offered Sri Lanka one billion yen to develop the strategic Trincomalee port.

Dr Hiroto Izumi, Special Advisor to the Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe during talks with Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe at Temple Trees yesterday, said that Japan considered Sri Lanka a good friend and was committed to strengthening the long standing economic and cultural partnership between the two countries.

Japan would provide a grant of one billion yen to improve the Trincomalee harbour, Izumi revealed adding that it would also assist in modernising the city of Kandy on the lines of Kyoto City, while preserving its historical heritage.

The two leaders also discussed plans to develop a Light Rail Transit System for Colombo, the Central Expressway and the Katunayake International



Dr Hiroto Izumi, Special Advisor to the Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, being welcomed by Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe at Temple Trees yesterday.

Airport.

Japan has provided Official Development Aid to the Colombo Port Development Program since 1980 and cooperated in enlarging and maintaining the historical port. Colombo prospered as a spice trading port for a long time and played an important role as a transit point of economy and culture between Asia and Europe as well.

At the end of the Edo period, when many Japanese travelled to Europe, they also visited Colombo in transit and changed their travelling outfits on their way, as well as on their return to Japan. Among the visitors, there were diplomatic delegations of the last days of the Tokugawa Shogunate as well as several famous Japanese personalities such as FUKUZAWA Yukichi, MORI Ogai, NATSUME Soseki, YOSANO Akiko and others.

Newspaper – Sunday Observer Date – 23-06-2019

CICT voted Best Container Terminal in Asia

Wins AFLAS award in the under four million TEUs category

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Incheon International Airport Corp Director Young Nam Park presents the AFLAS 2019 award to CICT General Manager Operations, Kumar Siriwardane.

Company CEO Jack Huang said, "The award is a testament to CICT's dedication to consistent delivery of high levels of service to the global shipping lines that use our terminal. It is through their votes that we have once again been bestowed this honour, and we pledge to maintain and exceed their expectations in the future."

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Newspaper – Sunday Observer Date – 23-06-2019

Stakeholders positive on proposed East Container Terminal model - Port Chairman

The Port of Colombo will be a leader in the Indian Ocean, Middle East and East African hub ports and is to become an efficient logistic hub attracting sustainable investment and trade to facilitate the national export strategy (NEX), according to the National Port Master Plan announced in March 2018, by NPA and funded by the Asian Development Bank and Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction.

To retain Colombo's dominant position as a hub port in the region, the Master Plan stresses on a threefold focus: 1. Maintaining a world class transshipment hub serving the Middle East, East Africa, India, Pakistan and the Bay of Bengal; 2. Becoming an efficient logistic hub for imports and newly developed exports; and 3. Becoming a sustainable port.

The report adds, "The Colombo Port is the leader in the Indian Ocean as a transshipment hub port and should stay competitive with other national and international transshipment ports". To achieve this, the focus should be on operational excellence on marine services, cargo handling services, auxiliary functions and on interterminal traffic. The marine activities and handling activities are one of the core activities of the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA). Port designs are adopted and future capacity is planned to stay ahead of demand. Innovations and new technologies will support this development.

"The port of Colombo should also become more efficient to facilitate the NEX on targeted export sectors as well as improving logistics on import cargo. As many trades are transported by container, the container logistics chain is a prime focus to become more efficient. This can be created for better infrastructure on port and hinterland connections as well as on administration and procedures."

In this backdrop, the government has embarked on ambitious plans to transform Sri Lanka into a vibrant maritime hub in the region.

One of the developments that took



Karan Ratnayaka

place recently as far as the plan implementation process was concerned, was the signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) by Sri Lanka, Japan and India to develop the East Container Terminal (ECT) of the port. The shipping community has welcomed the decision with enthusiasm. Now, the three governments will work out the details based on the MoC joint working group meetings, and advance their completion to wards early commencement of work and operation of the ECT.

Chairman, SLPA, Karan Ratnayaka said the SLPA retains 100% ownership of ECT. The Terminal Operations Company (TOC) conducting all East Container Terminal operations is jointly owned. Sri Lanka retains a 51% stake, and the joint venture partners purchase a 49% stake.

Japan has agreed to provide a concessionary loan to develop the ECT and the estimated cost is approximately US\$ 500 million.

Justification

Explaining the rationale behind the ECT project and justifying the model they are currently working on, Ratnayaka

Japanese Prime Minister's Special Advisor, Dr. Hiroto Izumi reaffirmed Japan's commitment to develop East Container Terminal in partnership with Sri Lanka and India during a meeting with Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe on Friday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ARUNACHAL PRADESH

he said it is vital to retain Colombo's dominant position as a hub port in the region with modern expansion programs. He was speaking at a meeting held at the SLPA last Monday.

The envisaged Japanese loan carries one of the best loan terms Sri Lanka has obtained. The 51% stake is also one of the best in SLPA joint ownership endeavours. SLPA's majority ownership in the new TOC represents a significant step in prioritising national interests.

At present a 20-member Japanese group, including Japanese Prime Minister's Special Advisor, Dr. Hiroto Izumi is in discussion with Sri Lankan and Indian authorities on setting up of a 'joint working group' to develop the East Container Terminal (ECT) located in the Colombo South Port. In 2017, along with Japanese Ambassador Akira Sugiyama, met Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe and several senior Ministers on Friday to discuss on some of the development plans in Sri Lanka.

"The Japanese team is currently in discussion to determine what the working group should look like. The team will also have talks with the Indian officials," Chairman Ratnayaka said.

Apart from the ECT project, the Port

authorities are currently working on several other development projects to increase the efficiency of its terminals.

The life span of SLPA-managed Jaya Container Terminals (JCT 1 to 4) is also coming to an end. "They need to be modernised. With JCT terminals having capacity and efficiency issues, it is vital to have the ECT at operational level to meet the future demand of the Colombo Port," Ratnayaka said.

The Colombo port's current capacity with JCT, South Asia Gateway Terminals (SAGT) and Colombo International Container Terminal (CICT) is 7.5 million Twenty-foot Equivalent Units (TEU) and last year the volume handled amounted to 7 million TEU, up by 13.3% from 2017. 80% of the volume is transshipment.

India and Bangladesh

The Colombo Port is ranked 13th in connectivity (Drewry, 2018) and 22nd among global ports (Ampalner, 2018) and is one of the fastest growing in the world.

The Master Plan states, the JCT modernisation plan should include the development of the JCT to keep operations at competitive levels and enable berthing



Colombo Port

of two large-sized container vessels simultaneously. The main works proposed in the plan comprise (i) an extension of the berths (6) dredging, (6c) procurement of new equipment; and (iv) procurement of a new IT system.

Mumbai, East India, West India

to be 5.8 million TEUs by 2025 and to 6.4 million TEUs by 2030 and 12.6 million TEUs by 2050. The high case transshipment demand forecast is estimated at 2.2 million TEUs by 2025 and 4.5 million TEUs by 2030 and to 21 million TEUs by 2050. The base case demand for domestic containers (import-export) is 1.1 million TEUs by 2025, 2.5 million TEUs by 2030 and 3.1 million TEUs by 2050; the high case scenario is 2.2 million TEUs by 2025, 2.7 million TEUs by 2030 and 4 million TEUs by 2050.

The Master plan forecasts annual transshipment volumes to increase from 2.87 million TEU in 2015 to 11.67 million TEU in 2050.

"A dip in volumes can be observed around 2036, due to the expected implementation of several competitive projects. Due to increasing direct trade shares and increasing pressure from competing transshipment hub groups, growth of transshipment volumes is expected to discontinue after 2037."

Transshipment of containers accounts for approximately 75% of Colombo's total container traffic; the remaining 25% comprises local containerised cargo, driven mainly by exports of garments, tea and rubber and imports of consumption products, industrial and agricultural equipment.

The port handled 31.8 m TEUs in 2018 including 5.7 m TEU of containers. In 2016 the port had about 405 ships arrivals and was ranked as the 21st largest container port in the world. The port handles the largest container vessels in the world having dimensions of 365 m in length and a capacity of 21,000 TEU due to quays with ample water depths of 12-16m and state-of-the-art terminals.

To match the future human resources and administration demands and needs, Ratnayaka said, the Port complex will also receive a fresh look and new spaces will be created for office and special job fields with the setting up of a maritime facilitation centre in the premises. - **CJ**

Newspaper – Sunday Morning Date – 23-06-2019

CICT voted Asia's Best Container Terminal for 3rd consecutive year



CICT General Manager - Operations Kumar Siriwardene accepting the AFLAS 2019 award on behalf of CICT from Incheon International Airport Corp Director Young Nam Park

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Commenting on CICT

winning this award for the third consecutive year, CEO Jack Huang said: "The award is a testament to CICT's dedication to consistent delivery of high levels of service to global shipping lines that use our terminal. It is through their votes that we have once again been bestowed this honour, and we pledge to maintain and exceed their expectations in the future."

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Newspaper – Daily FT Date – 24-06-2019

Colombo Dockyard delivers biggest-ever vessel

■ 'KDDI Cable Infinity' built for Kokusai Cable Ship of Japan

COLOMBO Dockyard PLC (CDPLC) on Friday delivered the first-ever modern Cable Laying Vessel built for Kokusai Cable Ship Co. Ltd. (KCS) Japan attended by a host of dignitaries. This is the biggest-ever vessel, price-wise as well as length-wise, built by Colombo Dockyard in its illustrious journey of shipbuilding excellence and the first ever ship built 'in its class' from Sri Lanka to Japan.

Ports and Shipping Minister Sagala Ratnayaka, Megapolis and Western Development Minister Patali Champika Ranawaka officiated at the launch. Representing Colombo Dockyard Chairman Hideaki Tanaka, Vice Chairman Sarath De Costa, Managing Director and CEO D.V. Abeysinghe, Director K. Kanaya, Technical Advisor Y. Saki, General Manager (SD) Lal Hettiaratchchi, General Manager (New Construction) Thimira Godakumbura, AGM (Special Projects) S.D. Gilbert and the entire corporate management team and staff participated.

This Cable Laying Vessel is 113.1 m in length, 21.5 m in breadth, 8.8 m depth, with a maximum load draught of approx. 7.1 m has a deadweight carrying capacity of 5,757 DWT and a speed of 14.5 knots with accommodation facilities for 80 persons.

This vessel is a modern, high technology vessel, which is intended for subsea operation and cable installation and repair works of 'optical cables' as well as 'power cables' adding to the versatility of the vessel. For the handling of power cables, the forward tank



Colombo Dockyard delivered the first ever modern Cable Laying Vessel built for Kokusai Cable Ship Japan yesterday. Megapolis and Western Development Minister Patali Champika Ranawaka, Ports, Shipping and Southern Development Minister Sagala Ratnayaka, Colombo Dockyard Managing Director and CEO D.V. Abeysinghe distinguished guests were present at the event – Pix by Lasantha Kumara



has been fitted with a carousel system with a Spooling Arm.

The vessel is specially designed and equipped with a focus on maintaining good sea keeping ability and excellent station keeping performance. Passive roll reduction tanks help minimise the effect of ship rolling.

The vessel has many special features including low resistance hull lines designed for higher speed and low fuel consumption. The vessel is also extremely eco-friendly. High tech systems are in place to

reduce harmful emissions complying with IMO Global Sulphur Cap 2020 requirements, waste storage solutions, water ballast treatment systems, eco-subsea coating solutions etc.

The vessel is diesel electric driven and has optimised power, which is another key feature. Power is provided by four generator sets, developing 2,300 kW each. Three generators out of the four available are sufficient to cope with the highest propulsion power demands, ensuring high reliability.

Transit at economic

speed with two engines efficiently running will optimise fuel consumption. The vessel shall have a bollard pull of 80 tons with a range of 10,000 nautical miles and has Dynamic Positioning capability to Class 2 for precision manoeuvring and station keeping.

The basic design and production drawings for the construction were supplied by VARD Designs, Norway. The vessel has flexible operational capabilities and provides a comfortable platform for the operational personnel and the interior design of the



vessel is aesthetically appealing.

The vessel's material, equipment, construction, quality and performance conform to the highest internationally accepted marine industrial norms and standards. This vessel is built to Class NK classification society standards and meets the regulatory requirements of the Japanese Government (JG requirements).

The delivery of this modern-day highly sophisticated Cable Laying Vessel is a testament to the pride and dedication exhibited by Colombo Dockyard's shipbuilding team and Colombo Dockyard is honoured to be building this type of new class of vessels for its deployment around the world and demonstrates Colombo Dockyard's proven capability to design, construct and deliver large, complex vessels to international markets as well as domestic market.

Colombo Dockyard PLC is a flagship investment of Japan and operates in joint collaboration with Onomichi Dockyard Company Ltd. of Japan. The Sri Lankan Government institutions hold more than 35% stake in the company. Colombo Dockyard is Sri Lanka's front runner of its industrialisation drive.

Newspaper – Daily Mirror Date – 24-06-2019

IN a bid to increase awareness of gender diversity in the workplace, the Hambantota International Port (HIP) partnered with the Sri Lankan arm of the Women's International Shipping and Trading Association (WISTA). The association together with the port team launched a program for ships calling at the Hambantota Port.

The seafaring profession is largely male-dominated. As stated in the IMO report of 1992, women accounted for only 1-2% of the 1.25 million seafarers in the world. As such women represent an untapped resource for crewing the world fleet and addressing the current labour shortage. According to the IMO report of 1997, women are an under-utilised and under-developed resource which could provide part of the solution to the problem of crewing the future world merchant fleets.

Hambantota International Port Group (HIPG) CEO Ray Ren said: "It is probably due to the male-dominated factor that women have not considered career paths in the shipping industry very seriously. No doubt that seafaring could be a challenging job for women, and that is the reason why proper safeguards are a requirement. Women may fear to enter this profession as they would anticipate facing harassment and little support from their co-workers, considering seafaring has so far been known to be mostly an all-male environment. This needs to change and we believe this program we have launched with WISTA Sri Lanka is an initial step on our part in impacting this sector."

HIP kicked off the program at an event held onboard vessel SHOHJIN, which called at the port recently. A booklet on gender diversity was presented to the

HIP joins WISTA Sri Lanka to build gender diversity awareness



The booklet on gender diversity being handed over to Vessel SHOHJIN Capt. Md. Wahidul Haque by WISTA Sri Lanka President Rukshila Anthony. Staff of HIP and representatives of WISTA Sri Lanka were also present at this ceremony

captain of the vessel Md. Wahidul Haque at the ceremony. The port plans to hand over a book to each vessel that calls at HIP from now on.

The publication by Anglo-Eastern Ship Management Ltd. and the International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN) addresses issues for behaviour between men and women working together onboard.

It addresses major challenges of discrimination, sexual harassment, isolation and attitude and aims to encourage seafarers not to turn a blind eye to the issues, but to make a conscious effort to be more sensitive to individual differences onboard. The book encourages above all to show respect both in thought and in action, especially since more women are now being employed as seafarers.

Industry leaders and legislators have recognised the importance of this human element and the book-

let has been compiled with the intention of educating and training not only current, but the next generation of seafarers on how to adapt to changes in society and the industry.

HIP is in the process of broadening the scope of their workforce, creating equal opportunities to all, especially opening up jobs for women in the area.

The gender diversity awareness campaign is spearheaded by WISTA Sri Lanka and sponsored by HIP. WISTA Sri Lanka, a member of WISTA International is part of a global organisation connecting female executives and decision makers around the world. WISTA International serves as a connector for its network of more than 3,000 female professionals from all sectors of the maritime industry.

More than 40 countries support the National WISTA Association (NWA), each of which in turn is a member of and is guided by WISTA

International. WISTA International has received Consultative Status by the International Maritime Organization's (IMO) governing body, the IMO Council, giving them the opportunity to promote diversity, inclusion and women's empowerment in the industry.

Attending on behalf of WISTA Sri Lanka were Association President Rukshila Anthony, Vice President Catriona Jayasundera and Press Committee and Media Coordinator Head Ishani Caldera. Also present at the ceremony were Ray Ren, HIPG COO Tissa Wickramasinghe, HR GM Jeevan Premasara, Sylesh Peerez GM Sylesh Peerez, Senior Manager – Commercial and Marketing Chandula Rambukwella, Manager – Port Related Industry Sabrina Edirisinghe, Executive – Commercial and Marketing Jayathmi Gamachchige and Graduate Trainee – Commercial and Marketing Ewmi Kurukulasuriya.

Newspaper – Daily News Date – 24-06-2019

Colombo Dockyard delivers modern cable laying vessel

LAKMI NANAYAKKARA

Colombo Dockyard PLC (CDPLC) delivered the first ever modern Cable Laying Vessel built for Kokusai Cable Ship Co. Ltd. (KCS) Japan, last Friday. The high-technology 'KDDI Cable Infinity' is meant for subsea operation and cable installation and repair works of optical cables as well as power cables.

This is the biggest ever vessel, price-wise as well as length-wise, built by Colombo Dockyard in its journey of shipbuilding excellence and the first ever ship built 'in its class' from Sri Lanka to Japan.

Gracing the occasion Minister of Ports and Shipping and Southern Development, Sagala Rathnayaka said the foreign exchange and employment opportunities are more important for a country to achieve a sustainable economy. Thus this kind

of challenges needs to be taken which in turn assist the development of the country and save the foreign exchange spent on them.

He also said that the ministry would try to persuade the removal of the prior experience condition which at present needs to be fulfilled by a ship building company to bid on an order.

"We are so proud of the Colombo Dockyard for building this without any prior experience in building this kind of ships and we believe that the CDPLC is capable of taking new challenges," he said.

Accounting for the geographical location of the country, development of the shipping industry is vital for the economic development whereas the Colombo Dockyard plays a major role in developing the shipping industry of the country. **To page iv**



The replica of the ship received by Managing Director, KCS, Yukihiro Fuji from Minister Sagala Rathnayake, Minister Patali Champika Ranawaka, Minister Nalin Bandara and Managing Director, Colombo Dockyard PLC, D.V Abeyasinghe were present. *Picture by Ariyawansa Sumanachandra*

Newspaper – Ceylon FT Date – 24-06-2019

Colombo Dockyard delivers Japanese cable ship Eyes Sri Lanka dredger deal

Colombo Dockyard has delivered a submarine cable-laying ship for Japan's Kokusai Cable Ship Co. Ltd., its biggest and most sophisticated vessel, and says it wants to bid to build a dredger for a Sri Lankan Government agency.

The high-technology 'KDDI Cable Infinity' is meant for subsea operation and cable installation and repair works of both optical communications and power cables, the yard's Managing Director and Chief Executive D.V. Abeysinghe said.

Having delivered the first vessel of

this type after a two-year period, Colombo Dockyard can now bid to build similar vessels in future, under its strategy of building more sophisticated vessels in niche markets, he told reporters.

Colombo Dockyard won the contract from Kokusai Cable Ship Co. against competition from other Asian yards including from Japan, Singapore and Malaysia, he said.

Yukihiro Fujii, who represented Kokusai Cable Ship Co. (KCS), the Japanese owner, at the delivery, said there was plenty of work for cable...



Colombo...

...ships with more undersea cables being laid for both fibre optic communications and power transmission.

About 99 per cent of Japan's internet traffic goes through submarine cables, said Fujii, board member and director of engineering and facility planning department of KCS, part of the big Japanese telecom operator KDDI Corporation.

Build quality, delivery time and price were factors considered in awarding the contract to Colombo Dockyard, he told economynext.com.

The home port of KDDI Cable Infinity, which can operate globally, will be Kitakyushu, the northernmost city on Japan's southern Kyushu island, from where it will do cable installation and repair in the Asia-Pacific region.

Abeysinghe, of Colombo Dockyard, which is majority

owned by Japan's Onomichi Dockyard Company, said the yard also wants to bid for a dredger which Sri Lanka Land and Development Corporation (SLLRDC) is to buy.

SLLRDC, now renamed Sri Lanka Land and Development Corporation, wants the dredger for sea sand mining to meet growing requirements of the construction industry as sand stocks on land get depleted.

But Abeysinghe said a contract condition specifying previous building experience restricted Colombo Dockyard from bidding for the dredger deal.

"We would like this condition removed because if we don't get the first ship in any type of ship building activity, we will never gain the experience to build them."

Minister of Ports and Shipping Sagala Ratnayaka said the ministry would lobby for removal of the prior experience condition.

A Dockyard statement said 'KDDI Cable Infinity' is diesel electric driven, another first for the yard, with power provided by four generator sets, developing 2,300kW each, and a range of 10,000 nautical miles.

The basic design and production drawings for the construction were supplied by VARD Designs, Norway, and the vessel is built to ClassNK classification society standards and meets the regulatory requirements of the Japanese Government.

(Economynext)

Newspaper – Daily Mirror Date – 24-06-2019

Colombo Dockyard successfully delivers its largest ever ship to Japan

By Nishal Fernando

Colombo Dockyard PLC (CDPLC) successfully announced its entry into the lucrative cable-laying vessel market with its delivery of the first-ever cable-laying vessel, 'KDDI Cable Infinity', built for Kokusai Cable Ship Co. Ltd (KCS) of Japan, last Friday.

With 113.1 meters in length, 21.5 meters in breadth and 9.8 meters in depth, the vessel is the largest ship ever built by Colombo Dockyard and the largest ship delivered to Japan by Sri Lanka in its shipbuilding history.

Having valued approximately at US \$ 60 million, the modern and high-tech vessel is intended for submarine operation, cable installation and repair work of optical cables as well as power cables, adding to the versatility of the vessel.

The handing over ceremony was graced by Ports, Shipping and Southern Development Minister Sagala Ratnayake and Megapolis and Western Development Minister Patali Champerla Ranawaka.

The vessel was scheduled to set sail to Japan last Saturday.

Colombo Dockyard Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director D.V. Abeyasinghe highlighted that the company could now bid for similar vessels in the future.

"As we have built our first cable-laying vessel, it can be capitalised as a qualification to break into other markets in Europe and the Middle East. I am confident that we can easily go for other markets," Colombo Dockyard Shipbuilding Marketing Head Prince Lye told Mirror Business.

As the offshore oil and gas ship market is currently in a recession, Colombo Dockyard plans to focus on emerging segments such as cable-laying vessels to reach its revenue and profit targets.

The recent research identified that the increasing trend and demand for high-speed Internet, rising demand for electricity and rapid development in telecommunication systems, drive the demand for the cable-laying vessel market.

Lye noted that the company's capacity to adapt to new designs was a key reason for Kokusai Cable Ship Co. to award the contract to CDPLC over bidders from Japan, Singapore and Malaysia.

Hence, he expressed his confidence that Colombo Dockyard has its systems in place to build any kind of vessel that the market demands.

Lye pointed out that CDPLC could increase its local value addition significantly, if the country develops the required industries to manufacture shipbuilding components locally.

"Sri Lanka still doesn't manufacture steel, main engines and pipes, etc," he noted.

Colombo Dockyard acquired the basic design and production drawings for the construction of the vessel from Norway-based VARD Design, while the vessel was built to the Class NK classification society standards and meets the regulatory requirements of the Japanese government.

The Colombo Dockyard officials emphasised that they were able



From left, Development Strategist of International Trade Deputy Minister Nalin Bandara Jayamaha, Ports, Shipping and Southern Development Minister Sagala Ratnayake, Megapolis and Western Development Minister Patali Champerla Ranawaka, Kokusai Cable Ship Co. Managing Director Yukihito Fujii (middle) and CDPLC Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director D.V. Abeyasinghe



to introduce new technologies to the country by undertaking the manufacturing of this vessel.

The vessel is built with several special features, including low resistance hull lines designed for higher speed and low fuel consumption.

The vessel is also extremely eco-friendly with high-tech systems in place to reduce harmful emissions complying with IMO Global Sulphur Cap 2020 requirements, waste storage solutions, water ballast treatment systems, eco-hull coating solutions, etc.

The diesel-electric-driven vessel has optimized power, which is another key feature. The power is provided by four generator sets, developing 2,300kW each and three generators out of the four available are sufficient to cope with the highest propulsion power demands, ensuring high reliability.

A top CDPLC official emphasised that the local engineers have integrated the vessel with their expertise.

Colombo Dockyard is a flagship investment of Japan and operates in joint collaboration with Onomichi Dockyard Company Limited of Japan by employing over 3000 workforce in Colombo. The Sri Lankan government institutions hold over a 35 percent stake in the company.

The shipbuilding contributes to 60 percent of the firm's top line while ship repairing contributes to remaining 40 percent.

PHOTO BY WAGUNA RAMANATHACHARI



Newspaper – Daily Mirror Date – 24-06-2019

SLPA to relocate head office to new 17-storey complex

The Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA) plans to relocate its head office to a brand-new 17-storey office complex located outside the Colombo Port by 2021.

SLPA Chief Engineer Planning and Development Susantha Abeysiriwardena on Wednesday announced that the construction of the new head office, located opposite the Customs building in Fort, has already begun, at a cost of US \$ 20 million.

The new SLPA head office will also serve as the Maritime Facilitation Centre for the industry.

Abeysiriwardena noted that the new head office comes under the US \$ 360 million Port Access Elevated Road Project.

The Asian Development Bank granted a US \$ 300 million loan for the project, while the government is funding the remaining US \$ 60 million.

Further, several buildings inside the port belonging to the SLPA are scheduled to be demolished in order to enhance the facilities at the Colombo Port.

“The people who are not linked with ground operations at Colombo will no longer be required to come to the port. Hence, traffic congestion inside the port will be reduced,” Abeysiriwardena said.

The SLPA expects that the new head office of the SLPA will be ready to be occupied by end-2021.

The construction of the Port Access Elevated Road is likely to commence within the next two months.

The new highway is expected to ease traffic congestion, improve connectivity and facilitate trade logistics in the country.

Newspaper – Daily Mirror Date – 24-06-2019

CICT voted Best Container Terminal in Asia for 3rd successive year



CICT General Manager Operations Kumar Sriwardana (extreme left) accepts AFLAS 2019 award on behalf of CICT from Incheon International Airport Corp. Director Young Nam Park

Beats terminals in China, Indonesia and Thailand to win coveted AFLAS award in Under 4mn TEUs category

China Merchants Port Holdings Company (CMPort)-managed Colombo International Container Terminal (CICT), the only deep water terminal in the Port of Colombo, has been voted the Best Container Terminal in Asia in the Under 4 million TEUs category, at the prestigious Asian Freight, Logistics and Supply Chain (AFLAS) Awards hosted and presented by Asia Cargo News.

This is the third consecutive year that CICT has won this award intended to honour organisations for demonstrating leadership as well as consistency in service quality, innovation, customer-relationship management and reliability.

The awards ceremony was held at the Asia Society Hong Kong Center, Hong Kong, following a nomination and voting process that allowed more than 15,000 readers of Asia Cargo News and e-news subscribers to first determine the leading companies in the market and then select the winners, making the results the opinion of service users rather than a panel of judges.

To win the award in its category, CICT had to compete with the top eight shortlisted terminals nominated on the basis of criteria that were laid down by the publication and face a technical evaluation.

The evaluation process included asking readers of Asia Cargo News open-ended questions to nominate their preferred container terminals in 48 categories. Nominees had to adhere to criteria standards encompassing higher operational productivity, efficient turnaround of trucks delivering and picking up containers, provision of suitable container shipping-related infrastructure, cost competitiveness, customer service level and customer satisfaction, timely and adequate investment in new facilities to meet future demand, innovative operating environment, facilitation of ancillary services and ease of doing business activities and effective and easy-to-use IT systems.

The other three terminals among the top four in the Under 4 million TEUs category were DaChan Bay Terminals (China),

Jakarta International Container Terminal (Indonesia) and Laem Chabang International Terminal (Thailand).

Commenting on CICT winning this award for the third consecutive year, the company's CEO Jack Huang said, "The award is a testament to CICT's dedication to consistent delivery of high levels of service to the global shipping lines that use our terminal. It is through their votes that we have once again been bestowed this honour and we pledge to maintain and exceed their expectations in the future. The commitment to excellence by members of 'Team CICT' warrants special mention, as it is their hard work that ultimately culminates in our achievements."

The 2019 AFLAS Awards ceremony that was held in Hong Kong was attended by leading service providers including air and shipping lines, airports and seaports, logistics, third party logistics providers and other associated supply chain industry professionals representing every region and continent in the world.

Written by leading transport and cargo industry journalists, Asia Cargo News is a vital source of intelligence for cargo, logistics and supply chain companies located in and doing business in Asia. The newspaper includes a range of in-depth features, news and analysis designed to meet the information needs of industry decision makers.

CICT is the first and currently the only deep water terminal in South Asia equipped with facilities to handle the largest vessels afloat. Since its inception in 2014, the terminal has incrementally grown the volume it has handled, from 686,639 TEUs in 2014, to 1.56 million TEUs in 2015, 2 million TEUs in 2016, 2.38 million TEUs in 2017 and 2.68 million TEUs in 2018.

In its last four full years of operation, CICT has brought some of the largest vessels plying the Asia-Europe routes to Colombo. Of these, Milan Maersk (20,368 TEU), Ever Golden (20,388), MSC Maya (19,224 TEU), Mogen Maersk (18,300 TEU), MSC New York (16,652 TEU), CMA CGM Marco Polo (16,020 TEU), Edith Maersk and EMC Thalassa Hellas (each 14,000 plus TEUs) and their sister vessels are now regular callers at CICT.

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දිනය - 2019-06-25

ත්‍රිකුණාමලය වරාය සංවර්ධනයට ජපානයෙන් යෙන් බිලියනයක්



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Newspaper – Daily Mirror Date – 27-06-2019

Hambantota International Port partners WISTA to support gender diversity for seafarers

In a bid to increase awareness of gender diversity in the workplace, Hambantota International Port (HIP) partnered with the Sri Lankan arm of the Women's International Shipping and Trading Association (WISTA).

The association, together with the port team, launched a programme for ships calling at the Hambantota Port.

The seafaring profession is largely male-dominated. As stated in the IMO report of 1992, women accounted for only one in two percent of the 1.25 million seafarers in the world. As such, women represent an untapped resource for crewing the world fleet and addressing the current labour shortage.

Hambantota International Port Group (HIPG) CEO Ray Rex said, "It is probably due to the male-dominated factor that

women have not considered career paths in the shipping industry very seriously. No doubt that seafaring could be a challenging job for women and that is the reason why proper safeguards are a requirement."

"Women may fear to enter this profession as they would anticipate facing harassment and little support from their co-workers, considering seafaring has so far been known to be mostly an all-male environment. This needs to change and we believe this programme we have launched with WISTA Sri Lanka, is an initial step on our part in impacting this sector."

HIP kicked off the programme at an event held onboard vessel *Shokjin*, which called at the port recently. A booklet on gender diversity – as presented in the Captain of the vessel, Md. Wahabul Haque, at the ceremony. The port plans to hand

over a book to each vessel that calls at HIP from now on.

The publication by Anglo-Eastern Ship Management Limited and the International Seafarers' Welfare and Assistance Network (ISWAN), addresses issues for behaviour between men and women working together on-board. It addresses major challenges of discrimination, sexual harassment, isolation and attitude and aims to encourage seafarers not to turn a blind eye to the issues but to make a conscious effort to be more sensitive to individual differences onboard. The book encourages above all showing respect both in thought and in action, especially since most women are not yet employed as seafarers.

Staff of Hambantota International Port and representatives of WISTA Sri Lanka were also present at this ceremony.



WISTA Sri Lanka President, Kulkula Anthony presents the booklet on gender diversity to *Shokjin* Captain Md. Wahabul Haque.

Newspaper – Sunday Morning Date – 30-06-2019

Regulatory framework for boat building industry presented to stakeholders

The first draft for the regulatory framework of the boat building and boating industry has been prepared and is currently undergoing amendments based on industry stakeholder views, the Export Development Board (EDB) announced on Friday (28).

The National Export Strategy five-year plan formally launched in July 2018 identified boat-building and its related services as one of five key industries to expand Sri Lanka's export basket and increase export earnings to \$ 28 billion by 2022.

The framework was first presented to stakeholders at a workshop held on 21 June at the EDB with the participation of relevant government and private sector stakeholders including from



EDB Chairperson Indira Malwatte addressing the workshop

the Ministry of Ports and Shipping, Ministry of Industry and Commerce, Merchant Shipping Secretariat, Ministry

of Fisheries, boat manufacturers, boat operators, etc. to further improve and finalise the draft by obtaining inputs from relevant stakeholders.

The day-long workshop included a presentation of the draft regulatory framework to cover registration, regulation, and technical guidelines for all boat categories manufactured in Sri Lanka (other than the fishing boat category), leisure craft operations in the country, and visiting yachts/crafts to Sri Lanka and imports of boats to Sri Lanka.

The draft regulatory framework will be revisited and updated with the inputs of the relevant stakeholders before finalising. Once the regulatory framework is in place, it will ensure the smooth operation of the boat building and

boating industry, fulfilling an important pre-requisite for the development of the industry.

The Government allocated funds in the Budget 2018 for this regulatory framework as well as for the development of infrastructure facilities for this sector.

Keeping in line with the Budget 2018, the EDB, the Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade, Ministry of Ports and Shipping, Merchant Shipping Secretariat, along with the industry commenced work on the development of the regulatory framework for the boat building industry by obtaining the services of M/S Lloyds Register Marine as a consultant covering the entire value chain of the industry.

Contd. on page 2

Regulatory...

The consultant had a series of meetings with relevant government and private sector industry stakeholders to obtain their views on the development of the regulatory framework before drafting the regulatory framework. Keeping in line with the comprehensive terms of reference (TOR), all relevant regulations and legislations in force were examined carefully.

In terms of infrastructure, EDB and the Ministry of Development Strategies and International Trade

initiated the development of facilities and identified suitable lands in Kapparahotta (Weligama) to facilitate existing manufacturers to expand their production process and for berthing, launching, and testing (slipways/launching pads). The feasibility of constructing a breakwater in Kapparahotta (Weligama) is being studied at present.

Currently, Sri Lanka has the capacity to build and operate boats for yacht chartering and nautical activities. Further, foreign yachts can come to Sri Lankan water and anchor and spend few days in the country as we have attractive onshore activities such as whale/dolphin watching, scuba diving, leisure fishing, snorkelling, windsurfing, kite surfing, and many more around the country throughout the year.



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