

**Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Electronic Meeting of the National Shipping Board  
with Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Shipping held on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> May  
2020 at 1430 hours.**

**Attendees:**

Hon'ble Minister Shri Mansuk Madaviya, Ministry of Shipping (I/C) with  
Independent Charge,

Shri Gopal, Secretary to the Govt of India

Dr. Malini Shankar, Chairperson NSB

Shri Kumar Sanjay Bariar, Additional DG

Shri Satinder Pal Singh, JS Shipping

Shri Abdulgani Serang-NUSI

Shri Amar Singh Thakur-MUI

Shri Anil Devli- INSA

Shri Aditya Suklikar- ICCSA

Capt Sanjay Prashar- IMF

Shri Rahul Modi- CCTA

Shri Shantanu Bhadkamkar-AMTOI

Capt Piyush Sinha

Shri A. Balasubramanian

Shri Ishwar Achanta

Shri Ajay Sahai, FIEO

Capt. Sankar Kr. Das

Shri Kshetra Nath Milli

1.0 Granting leave of absence – All members were present for the meeting. The Director General of Shipping was represented by Shri Kumar Sanjay Bariar, Additional Director General of Shipping.

2.0 Approval of the Minutes of the 3rd meeting of the NSB – Members had perused the draft Minutes of the 3rd meeting of NSB held on 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2020. Since there was no comment, the Minutes were approved.

### 3.0 Update by Secretary, NSB on administrative issues –

The Chairperson informed the members that the issue of office premises can be decided after seeing the current office at Imperial Building, Ballard Estate..

- a. Capt. Das will inform the Chairperson once the NSB website is ready.
- b. Capt. Das was requested to arrange a car with a driver for the use of the Chairperson.

### 4.0 Roadmaps and Timelines to be presented by the Working Group –

4.1 The Chair requested that during this meeting the members could discuss on the finalisation of groups and approach and the detailed roadmap and the timelines can be finalised by the next meeting. When setting the timeline each group should give a detailed step by step process that its group would follow and timeline for each step. She suggested that all members could discuss and give inputs on what was the best way to move ahead on this. The timelines would not be common for all the groups. The Shipping Act group has a very tight timeline since comments and recommendations were to be sent to the Ministry by mid-June 2020. This group was, therefore, required to complete its report within 3-4 weeks.

4.2 Policy - JSS said that the report on Shipping Policy and Increase in Indian tonnage was almost ready and he would be submitting the same shortly.

4.3 Shipping Act - Shri Balasubramanian said that as decided in the last meeting, stakeholder's comments have been sought on the MS Bill 2016 on the website of INSA. Few comments were received and the same were being collated. However, the comments have been very few. The due date for receiving the comments was set as 21<sup>st</sup> May and seeing the speed at which the comments were being received, Shri Balasubramanian was of the opinion that the due date may have to be extended. It was agreed that the deadline be extended to 28<sup>th</sup> May 2020. Further in order that the information reaches maximum people from the maritime industry, the Chair requested Shri Sanjay Bariar also to host the notice inviting comments from

stakeholders on the DGS website. Shri Sanjay Bariar agreed to look into this. It was also suggested that a mail requesting for recommendations / comments be sent to all Shipping Associations. The Chair requested Capt. Das to send out a mail to all Associations related to shipping to provide comments / recommendations on the MS Bill. The update on the recommendations received from stakeholders and the areas for consideration basis the recommendations received would be taken up at the next NSB meeting. Capt. Balasubramanian requested the Board members also to send their recommendations on the MS Bill.

4.4 Multimodal Transport - Shri Bhadkamkar informed the members that his group had two meetings and a roadmap was prepared. The group had decided to give comments on the Draft Multimodal Bill. Some work was already done in the past which would be taken as the base document and after taking the comments of the group members, the report would then be shared with the Board for further comments. He further briefed the members on few other points that his group was currently considering to work on. They had identified areas of facilitation which is an area where there can be some balance of equipments i.e. containers at particular ICDs. This he stated would take a little longer time to work on. For the month end goal the group would identify the recommendations that could be made on cost reductions and seek data for balancing the equipment. Bangladesh Multimodal seemed to be an important issue and some work was already done and the group would discuss with CONCOR and take it forward. The Chair expressed her desire to join in the next Multimodal group meeting, if possible. Shri Bhadkamkar also informed the Chair that he had also received some crucial guidance from Shri Devli during their group meeting.

4.5 Coastal Shipping - Shri Rahul Modi had sent an interim note to the Chairperson. It was a suggestion of his group that his group name be changed to Multimodal Coastal Shipping (Transport). Further, being spurned by the "Atmma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan" promoted by Hon. Prime Minister of India, his group sought to request the Ministry of Shipping to

consider awarding special status to 'Coastal Multimodal transport operator' as a major stakeholder in the supply chain services to the Indian industry.

4.5.1 The suggestion was made keeping in view that Coastal shipping is an important alternate mode of transport in the entire supply chain. Shri Devli added that Coastal shipping makes us self-reliant. It is part of creation of seaside and inland waterways logistics. Just like Sagarmala was promoted and it has become a buzz word and movement by sea is now referred to Sagarmala. Hence it was requested to consider it under Atma-Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan and award special status under MOS to promote as an alternate economical eco-friendly mode of transport to nation's entire Supply chain. Coastal will play a major role to India's supply chain in coming years and if coastal is given this status then this will give a boost to coastal shipping.

4.5.2 With regards to the name change of the group, the Chair was open to the views of the members present. As regards special status, she requested JSS to take this up with the Ministry. She further requested the group to give recommendations based on short term, medium / long term. She further requested the group to note that the recommendations of the association cannot be the same as the recommendations of the Board and a proper discernment should be made when making any recommendation as the National Shipping Board. The Chair said that it was her suggestion for examination by the group that coastal shipping involves states and currently there is no dialogue with the States. The group would need data and also work alongwith the state while looking into converting rail transport to sea. She also suggested that having a representative from the Maritime Board in the group would be very useful. Shri Abdulgani suggested that the Government should also provide some incentive to boost coastal shipping. Shri Aditya Suklikar brought to the attention of the Chair that an incentive scheme for modal shift of cargo was announced by the Parliament, however, the same was not given. It was the view of the Chair that there were certain problems in the proposal and that the group could review the reasons. Capt. Prashar suggested that the Shipping Sector be given infrastructure

status. The JS Shipping suggested that there are a set of criteria laid out for any sector to qualify for infrastructure status and the same may be studied.

4.6 The Chair requested all members of the Board to note that while making recommendations for amendments in the policy, the recommendations should be very well argued, assess who will be the stakeholders who might resist or have objections and how the same can be countered or debated. She also requested the members that the group should try and focus on major recommendations rather than trying to put in several recommendations which might ultimately not be even looked into.

4.7 Ship Building - Capt Sinha said that he was in touch with all shipbuilders in India and he has been receiving a lot of issues which he was compiling. From the demand side he was in touch with Shri Devli and Shri Suklikar. He was also in touch with the IWAI to understand the demand from their side as well. Capt. Sinha requested JSS to provide him with the name of the nodal person in the ministry who could be contacted in order to get the names of the concerned persons from the Maritime Board. He further said that his group was also working on a catch line.

4.8 Seafarers' Employment & Welfare - Shri Sanjay Prashar informed the Chair that the meeting of his group was held and the group was formulating short term and long term recommendations. At the meeting the members had brought out issues that were being faced, namely, there were no SOPs for chartering the flights to bring in the seafarers stranded outside India and the same was still awaited. He also said that the MEA link does not show separately the list of seafarers registered. The Chair was of the view that these were operational issues and it would be best if this was handled directly by sending a mail to the Directorate General of Shipping / Ministry.

5.0 Fixing date of the next meeting –

The Chair asked the members to suggest whether they desired that a weekly meeting of the Board should be held or would a fortnightly meeting

be better. The members agreed for a meeting every fortnight. The fifth meeting of the NSB will, therefore, be held on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020 at 1430 hours. The chair suggested that at the fifth meeting of the Board the detailed discussions would be based on status of the report, what the report would cover and specific timelines. She said at every meeting a detailed status covering the above would be discussed pertaining to two groups. This would give the Board time to discuss and deliberate in detail. At the meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> June, the discussion would be on Shipping Act and Multimodal Transportation group.

6.0 Any other item –

There being no other matter to be discussed, the meeting was closed.

Approved

Dr. Malini Shankar  
Chairperson

Place: Mumbai

Date: 22/05/2020