NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 48 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 (38 of 1963), the Tariff Authority for Major Ports hereby extends the validity of the existing Scale of Rates of Visakha Container Terminal Private Limited as in the Order appended hereto.

(T.S. Balasubramanian)  
Member (Finance)
This case relates to the extension of the validity of the existing Scale of Rates of the Visakha Container Terminal Private Limited (VCTPL) for the container terminal operated by it at the Visakhapatnam Port Trust.

2. The existing Scale of Rates (SOR) of VCTPL was last approved by this Authority vide Order No. TAMP/10/2011-VCTPL dated 11 October 2011 which was notified in the Gazette of India on 05 November 2011. The Order prescribed the validity of the SOR till 31 March 2014. At the request of the terminal operator this Authority has extended the validity of the existing SOR on couple of occasions; the last extension being till 31 December 2014 vide Order dated 30 September 2014.

3. The VCTPL has filed its proposal for revision of the SOR vide its letters dated 19 December 2013 and 20 December 2013. The proposal has been taken on consultation with the concerned users.

4.1 Joint hearing, as part of the consultative process, was held on 7 October 2014. As decided at the joint hearing, the VCTPL and VPT were requested vide our letter dated 10 October 2014 to furnish their reply by 15 October 2014 to the queries raised by us vide our letter dated 1 October 2014. The VCTPL vide its e-mail dated 5 November 2014 has furnished its reply. The VPT has, however, furnished reply on some points vide its letter dated 5 January 2015. In view of that the VPT has been requested vide our letter dated 12 January 2015 to furnish its reply to the remaining points of the queries. Response of the VPT is awaited. In the meantime, the VCTPL, vide its letter dated 5 January 2015, has stated that since its revised SOR is yet to be notified, the VCTPL has requested this Authority to extend the validity of its existing SOR.

5.1 As mentioned above, the reply of the VPT on some points is awaited. Therefore, it will take some time for the case to mature for final consideration of this Authority.

5.2 As the extended validity of the existing SOR of the VCTPL expired on 31 December 2014 and in view of the position brought out in para 4.1 and 4.2. above, this Authority extends the validity of the existing SOR of the VCTPL from date of its expiry till 31 March 2015 or till the effective date of implementation of the revised Scale of Rates, whichever is earlier.

5.3 If any additional surplus over and above the admissible cost and permissible return emerges for the period post 1 April 2014, during the review of its performance, such additional surplus will be set off fully in the tariff to be determined.

(T.S. Balasubramanian)
Member (Finance)