

## **TARIFF AUTHORITY FOR MAJOR PORTS**

### **The Activities of the Tariff Authority for Major Ports in the year 2023-24**

1. The Financial Year (FY) 2023-24 has come to an end and it is time to recall the activities done during this year.

2.1. The Major Port Authorities Act, 2021 enacted by the Central Government of India has come into force from 3 November, 2021. The tariff fixation mandate of TAMP (under the erstwhile Major Port Trusts Act, 1963) stands withdrawn with effect from 03 November 2021.

2.2. The MPA Act, 2021 provides greater autonomy and freedom to Major Ports in their decision making process. The Act also empowers the major ports to fix tariff for services rendered and for port properties. In case of Public Private Participation (PPP) projects, after commencement of the Act, Concessionaires are allowed to determine market based tariff. The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MOPSW) has issued Tariff guidelines in 2021 for Major Ports and future PPP concessionaires (i.e. who bid after 2.11.2021).

2.3. For the PPP concessionaires who bid prior to 3.11.2021, the MOPSW has directed the Major Port Authorities to fix their tariff following the extant applicable Tariff Guidelines.

3.1. With the Major Port Authorities (MPA) Act, 2021 brought into force by the Central Government w.e.f. 03 November 2021, TAMP is to discharge the functions of the Adjudicatory Board until constitution of the Adjudicatory Board.

3.2. As mandated under the MPA Act, 2021 TAMP performs the functions other than tariff setting, viz. functions envisaged to be carried out by erstwhile TAMP arising from Tariff Guidelines, 2005, 2008, 2013, 2018 and 2019 tariff Orders issued, adjudicate and pass orders on the disputes between the Major Ports and PPP concessionaires within the framework of the Concession Agreement, appraise, review and suggest measures for revival of stressed PPP Projects, look into complaints from port users against services rendered by Major Ports / PPP concessionaires and pass orders and look into matters referred by the Central Government or the Major Ports on Port operations and pass Orders / give suggestions of the Adjudicatory Board as per the said Act.

3.3. The Major Ports Adjudicatory Board Rules, 2023, have been notified by the MOPSW in the Gazette of India on 17 January 2023.

3.4. The Regulations to describe the procedure to be followed by the TAMP/ Adjudicatory Board for discharging the functions, Schedule of Fees and Formats for filing of case/ application before the Adjudicatory Board have been firmed up.

3.5. TAMP has taken up the cases received by it for adjudication. Virtual Hearings are held with the applicant and the respondents as part of consultative process. The hearings gave an opportunity to the concerned parties of being heard of their views on their case/ application. The discussions very often throws up issues that call for further information from the concerned parties. Based on totality of information obtained, TAMP passes speaking orders while discharging its functions as Adjudicatory Board.

3.6. TAMP is in the process of developing an e-filing portal to facilitate the parties to file application through online mode aimed to provide seamless and transparent process and also provide real time information to the parties.

4. The audit of the accounts of the Authority for the year 2022-23 was undertaken by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India during the year 2023-24. As per the Audit Report released by the Comptroller and Auditor General, there are no audit paras on the Accounts of the Authority for the year 2022-23. The Audited Accounts for the year 2022-23 have been placed before both the Houses of Parliament.

5.1. TAMP has implemented e-office for paperless file, easy tracking and retrieval of documents.

5.2. The security audit of website of TAMP is done. Vulnerability assessment and Penetration Test (VAPT) of all the IT infrastructure are annually done to mitigate risks and vulnerabilities.

6.1. Under the aegis of the “Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav” TAMP has organised Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign during 13<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> August 2023 as per the directives of the Government.

6.2. TAMP has observed the “International Yoga Day” on 21.06.2023 and in a run up to the said event organised lectures/ talk on benefits of Yoga with eminent personalities.

6.3. TAMP has observed Hindi Pakhwada - 2023 from 14.09.2023 to 29.09.2023 to promote increase in the use of Hindi in its official work. During the Pakhwada, TAMP held various competitions in Hindi and felicitated the winners.

6.4. TAMP has observed Swachhata Pakhwada-2023 from 16.09.2023 to 29.09.2023. TAMP has also organised Special Cleanliness Drive on Shramdaan under the theme – Garbage Free India on 1 October

2023 where all the TAMP employees participated to promote the cause of Swachhta. Further, since “Special Campaign 3.0” under Swachhata Action Plan is an all-time activity, the directives for cleanliness are continuously observed throughout the year and monthly reports are sent to MOPSW.

6.5. In the year 2023-24, with an aim of ensuring transparency in the procurement of various assets/ items for the use of the Office and in line with the Government directives, TAMP has procured maximum of its goods and services through the public procurement portal i.e. Government e-Marketplace (GeM) i.e. 96% of the total procurement.

6.6. TAMP imparted various relevant training courses to employees to upskill them as part of capacity building.

7. TAMP discharges the functions of the Adjudicatory Board till constitution of the Adjudicatory Board by the Central Government. Every employee serving under TAMP shall become an employee of the Adjudicatory Board. The employees are geared up to ensure smooth transition from TAMP to the Adjudicatory Board. All necessary steps are being initiated in this direction.

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