

VISAKHAPATNAM PORT AUTHORITY
TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

No.ITRA/SHP/ FCIR
Dt. 16-03-2026

All Port Users

CIRCULAR No- 1912

Sub: Geo-Political disturbances in the Middle East – Facilitation measures and concessions extended by Visakhapatnam Port Authority to Port Users – Reg.

In compliance with the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways directives Dt. 6th March 2026 regarding Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Major Ports to mitigate the impact of geo-political disturbances in the Middle East read with Section 27, 50, 53, 75 of the Major Port Authorities Act 2021, clause 7.7 of the Tariff Policy for Major Port Authorities Act 2021 and relevant provisions of the respective Concession Agreements executed with the Concessionaires, VPA issues this Trade Notice for immediate compliance of all concerned in order to mitigate the hardships faced by the Port users due to the ongoing geo-political disturbances in the Middle East.

In line with the MoPSW directives, VPA is committed to extend possible assistance to the EXIM community to tide over this crisis situation. VPA has decided to facilitate the following measures and concessions to the Port Users.

1. **Concessions in Vessel Related Charges (VRC)** to the tune of

a) 80% concession in Vessel Related Charges (VRC) shall be granted to transshipment container vessels bound for Middle East calling at Visakhapatnam Port.

b) 70% concession in Vessel Related Charges (VRC) shall be granted to all container vessels.

2. **Waiver of Demurrage Charges:**

Demurrage charges on the stranded cargo pertaining to Middle East countries shall be taken up for waiver, as and when claimed by the concerned party, for cargo affected due to the Middle East crisis, subject to Submission of documentary evidence establishing the nexus with the said crisis, and Approval by the Competent Authority on a case-to-case basis.

3. **Exemption from Ground Rent**

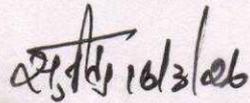
Ground rent shall be exempted for Middle East-bound Export containers stranded at the Port for the period from 0000 hrs on 28-02-2026 to 2400 hrs on 14-03-2026.

4. **Priority Berthing:**

Priority berthing shall be accorded to LPG tankers, subject to operational feasibility, safety considerations, and prevailing port regulations.

5. Additional Land Allocation :

An extent of (Approx) 6 acres of additional land has been earmarked and provided to accommodate Middle East-bound transshipment containers, as requested by the Terminal Operator, to ease congestion and facilitate smooth cargo handling. Hence the container Operating Agencies may take a note of the same and inform their ContainerLiners.


TRAFFIC MANAGER

C/- P.S to Chairperson for favor of information of Chairperson.

C/- P.A to Dy. Chairperson for favor of information of Dy. Chairperson.

C/-P.A to TM for information of Traffic Manager.

C/-Jt. Director (R&P) for information and request to place the circular in Port Website.

C/- Dy. Conservator for information.

C/- President, Visakhapatnam Steam Ship Agents Association for information please.

C/- President, Visakhapatnam Stevedores Association, for information please.

C/- President, Visakhapatnam Customs Brokers Association for information please.

C/- Shipping Asst. (Traffic Department), to circulate the above to Trade through e-mail.