



Ministry of Ports,
Shipping & Waterways
Government of India



VISAKHAPATNAM PORT AUTHORITY

*(1st Cleanest Port and secured 19th rank in the Container Port
Performance Index as per the World Ranks)*

BRIEF ON ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

February, 2026

1. INTRODUCTION

Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA) is one of India's leading Major ports, situated on the eastern coast of India. Established in 1933, with 31 berths and one SPM (Single Point Mooring for HPCL), the port has undergone substantial modernization and expansion and contributes significantly to the maritime trade with Asia Pacific regions, Persian Gulf, Europe, America and Africa. Visakhapatnam Port is capable of handling all types of cargoes including iron ore, coal, crude oil, petroleum products, LPG, Fertilizers, Dry Bulk Cargo, Liquid cargo and Containers. During the financial year 2024-25 the port handled record cargo volume of 82.62 Million Tons. Visakhapatnam Port is having three international Accreditations for Quality (ISO 9001), Environment (ISO 14001) and Occupational Health & Safety (ISO 45001) Management Systems.

2. PORT EFFICIENCY:

Efficiency at Ports has an important bearing on the transaction cost of the shipping lines and the efficiency indicators such as the Turn Around time (TRT), Average Output per ship berth day, idle time at berth in Visakhapatnam port are improving steadily. Recently, Visakhapatnam Port achieved a significant mile stone by securing a position among **the top 19 ports globally in the World Bank's Container Port Performance Index (CPPI)**. This recognition is a testament to the port's operational efficiency and exemplary performance in handling container ships. Key performance indicators contributing this achievement are operational parameters such as moves per crane hour, total turnaround time of ship spends in port (TRT), idle time at berth (time spent by a vessel at berth without any cargo handling operations).

The following are the appreciation letters given by the Hon'ble Ministers and CEO, Niti Aayog for outstanding performance in Container handling.

<p>सर्बानंद सोनोवाल SARBANANDA SONOWAL</p> <p>परम, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री आरत खरवट Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Government of India</p> <p>June, 2024</p> <p>Letter of Appreciation</p> <p>I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA) on the extraordinary dual achievement of securing a place within the top 20 rankings in the World Bank's Container Port Performance Index. It is a moment of great pride to acknowledge that VPA has attained the 20th position globally with an in-focus point of 62.29 in 2023 and the 19th position in the Container Port Performance Index.</p> <p>The port's remarkable performance, characterized by efficient management of container ships, reduced turnaround times, and a significant decrease in berth idle times, underscores the high standards upheld at Visakhapatnam Port. This milestone is a testament to the unwavering commitment and strategic vision that have driven the port to new heights of excellence.</p> <p>The collaboration between Public-Private Partnership (PPP) operators at Visakhapatnam Port is particularly noteworthy and aligns seamlessly with the goals of the Maritime India Vision 2030. This achievement, possible with the steadfast support of all stakeholders, including Government Agencies, Railways, Customs, and the State Government, whose collective efforts have been instrumental in this success.</p> <p>I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the exemplary leadership of Dr. M. Angamuthu and his dedicated team at the Visakhapatnam Port Authority. Your commitment to excellence has set a new benchmark in the maritime community. Ministry will continue to provide all possible support to the Port for its ongoing improvements, ensuring that it remains at the forefront of progress among Major Ports.</p> <p>Wishing you continued success and many more future achievements!</p> <p><i>(Sarbannya Sonowal)</i></p> <p>Dr. M. Angamuthu, IAS Chairperson, Visakhapatnam Port Authority, Andhra Pradesh, India</p> <p>Copy to: Secretary (PSW), Transport Bhawan, New Delhi</p> <p>Room No. 201, Transport Bhawan, 1, Sansad Marg, New Delhi - 110001 Ph.: 011-23171422, 23171423, 23171424 (O), 23555799 (F) E-mail: minister_shipping@gov.in Website: www.kship.gov.in</p>	<p>शान्तनु ठाकुर SHANTANU THAKUR</p> <p>राज्य मंत्री परम, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय आरत खरवट Minister of State For Ports, Shipping and Waterways Government of India</p> <p>D.O. No. 225...MoSST/PS&W Date: 19 June, 2024</p> <p>To, The Chairperson, Visakhapatnam Port Authority, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh-530035.</p> <p>Sub: Achievement of Visakhapatnam Port - Breaks into Top 20 in World Bank's Container Port Performance index.</p> <p>Dear Chairperson,</p> <p>It is with immense pride and pleasure that I write to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Visakhapatnam Port Authority on its recent outstanding achievement of breaking into the top 20 rankings in the World Bank's Container Port Performance Index (CPPI). I am particularly delighted to note that the VPA has secured the prestigious 19th position in this globally recognized index.</p> <p>The operational efficiency of ports in handling container ships evidenced by Key Performance Indicators, TRT, and an impressive berth idle time stands as a testament to the exemplary standards upheld at Visakhapatnam Port.</p> <p>It is particularly commendable that the concerted efforts of Public-Private Partnership operators at Visakhapatnam Port are being recognized in alignment with the Maritime India Vision 2030 directives.</p> <p>At this pivotal moment, it is imperative to extend recognition to the steadfast backing of all stakeholders, Government Bodies, Railways, Customs, and the State Government, for their collaborative efforts.</p>	<p>शान्तनु ठाकुर SHANTANU THAKUR</p> <p>राज्य मंत्री परम, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्रालय आरत खरवट Minister of State For Ports, Shipping and Waterways Government of India</p> <p>It is noteworthy that the Visakhapatnam Port Authority has secured the 4th rank among all Major Ports in India for the fiscal year 2023-2024.</p> <p>I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude for the exemplary leadership of Dr. M. Angamuthu and his team and relentless efforts of the Visakhapatnam Port Authority in facilitating these achievements.</p> <p>All the best!</p> <p>Yours Sincerely, <i>(Shantanu Thakur)</i> (Shantanu Thakur)</p> <p>Copy to: The Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, 401, Transport Bhawan, New Delhi-01.</p>	<p>बी. वी. आर. सुब्रह्मण्यम B.V.R. Subrahmanyam मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी Chief Executive Officer</p> <p>आरत खरवट वीरेंद्र शर्मा, मंत्रालय एई नंबर - 110 001 Government of India NITI Aayog, Parliament Street, New Delhi - 110 001 Tel.: 23095576, 23095574 E-mail: ceo-niti@gov.in</p> <p>28th June 2024</p> <p><i>Dear Angamuthu,</i></p> <p>I am indeed very happy to learn that the Visakhapatnam Port Authority has attained the 20th position among container ports across the globe as per the 'The Container Port Performance Index 2023', a study undertaken by the World Bank Group and SAP Global Market Intelligence. It is also heartening that Visakhapatnam Port Authority has been adjudged 19th among the best performing container ports in the world.</p> <p>2. This achievement of Visakhapatnam Port Authority underscores the importance of the ability of Visakhapatnam Port Authority to handle container ships deftly and maintaining standards of operational excellence at the port. I am also happy to note the commendable impact of collaborative efforts between Public-Private Partnership operators and Visakhapatnam Port Authority.</p> <p>3. I take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation for your exemplary leadership and that of your dedicated team at the Visakhapatnam Port Authority for this excellent global recognition. I compliment your commitment to excellence in establishing new benchmarks in the port sector.</p> <p>4. I wish you all the best and extend my good wishes in your endeavours to bring more laurels. I have no doubt that under your leadership the Visakhapatnam Port Authority will help India on its path to Viksit Bharat@2047.</p> <p><i>With best wishes,</i></p> <p>Yours sincerely, <i>(B. V. R. Subrahmanyam)</i> [B. V. R. Subrahmanyam]</p> <p>Dr. M. Angamuthu Chairperson Visakhapatnam Port Authority Visakhapatnam</p>
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Visakhapatnam Port Declared as the Cleanest Port of India

Visakhapatnam Port has been honoured with the prestigious title of 1st Cleanest Port of India by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) under the Swachhata Rankings 2023 & 2024. This recognition is a testament to the port's unwavering commitment to cleanliness, sustainability, and environmental stewardship.

Under the dynamic leadership of the **Dr. M. Angamuthu, IAS** and with the active participation of all stakeholders, Visakhapatnam Port has implemented several innovative initiatives to maintain high standards of sanitation and waste management. These include advanced solid waste handling systems, mechanized cleaning, green belt development, and awareness campaigns aligned with the Government of India's Swachh Bharat Mission.

The award reflects the port's continuous efforts to set a benchmark for other ports in the country by promoting a clean and eco-friendly working environment. It also highlights the importance of collective responsibility and efficient management practices in achieving national goals of cleanliness and sustainability.

This recognition not only boosts the morale of the Visakhapatnam Port community but also reaffirms its position as a leading and responsible maritime hub in India.



GREEN PORT INITIATIVE – GREEN VISAKHA

These initiatives are aligned with the Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways' broader "**Harit Sagar**" guidelines.

1 Million Plantation drive by VPA in Phased manner 2024-2027:

Visakhapatnam Port Authority has proposed an ambitious initiative, of distribution of **One Million plants over the next few years**. This initiative aims to provide plants to Central / State Government organisations, District administration, District Education institute, Local bodies and NGOs by doing so, VPA can significantly contribute to environmental conservation and promote sustainable practices within our community and beyond.



As part of an environmental campaign, Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA) launched a massive plantation drive to reaffirm its commitment to environmental protection.

Plantation details year wise:

S.No.	Year	No.of Plants	Plant Species
1	2012-13	48,750	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pongamia • Bauhinia • Badam • Neem • Spathodea • Conocarpus • Tabebuia rosea • Ravi • Marri • Ashoka • Kadamba • Turaayi • Mango • Sapaota • Seethapal • Coconut • Tamrind
2	2013-14	-	
3	2014-15	5,000	
4	2015-16	41,000	
5	2016-17	45,000	
6	2017-18	20,250	
7	2018-19	1,15,500	
8	2019-20	1,88,000	
9	2020-21	72,000	
10	2021-22	10,000	
11	2022-23	20,000	
12	2023-24	35,000	
13	2024-25	60,000	
14	2025-26	3,40,000	
	TOTAL	10,30,500	
1 Million plantation drive in phased manner for next 3 years (2024-25, 2025-26, 2026-27)			

85 % of Survival rate of plants is recorded. During the period of maintenance specific teams shall be appointed for close monitoring of the survival rate of the plants.

Distribution of Plants

As part of this initiative, VPA distributed one million saplings, including Neem, Badam, Banyan, Gulmohar, Mahogany, and fruit-bearing trees like Mango and Guava. The distribution was conducted in coordination with the State Government and various public and private organizations, with notable contributions such as 1,00,000 saplings to Visakha Zilla Nava Nirmana Samithi, 26,000 to Visakha Pharma City, and others.



VPA, as a pollution control measure, distributed saplings to local residents in the presence of **Hon'ble Member of Legislative Assembly, Sri Ch. Vamsi Krishna Srinivas**, along with other local residents and VPA officials



PLANTATION DRIVE IN TRIBAL AREAS

As part of its green initiative and the ambitious one-million-sapling plantation drive, Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA), in collaboration with the Visakha Zilla Nava Nirmana Samithi, has planted 20,000 diverse plant species in tribal areas of Chintapalli District. This initiative aims to enhance environmental sustainability and contribute to the region's ecological balance.

Under the Govt. of India flagship program **# EK PED MAA KE NAAM**. This special initiative will boost the adivasi participation and brings closer to Govt. of India programmes to them.



PLANTATION DRIVE IN I.M.U CAMPUS

As part of its green initiative and the ambitious one-million-sapling plantation drive, Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA), in collaboration with the Indian Maritime University (IMU), has planted 4,000 diverse plant species in IMU campus on a 4-acre land.



This initiative aims to enhance environmental sustainability and contribute to the region's ecological balance. VPA has also secured commitments from the recipient educational institutions and agencies to ensure the proper care and survival of the distributed plants, reinforcing its long-term environmental goals.

Community Connect

Visakhapatnam Port Authority was pleased to positively consider the request of Shri Ch. Vamsi Krishna Srinivas, Hon'ble Member of the Legislative Assembly, and has sanctioned the installation of five R.O. plants under its CSR initiative to support the drinking water needs of patients in Visakhapatnam. The proposal includes three R.O. plants at King George Hospital—specifically at the Mortuary, Pediatrics Ward, and Ortho Theatre—one R.O. plant near the patient waiting hall at Victoria General Hospital, and another at the Primary Health Centre (PHC) near Bhavana Rusheeswara Temple in Burugupeta (36th Ward).

"Visakhapatnam Port Authority Empowers Healthcare through Indian Red Cross Society Clinic":

As part of its commitment to **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)**, **Visakhapatnam Port Authority** has partnered with the **Indian Red Cross Society** to enhance healthcare access for underprivileged communities. Through its funding support, a modern medical clinic has been established in the One Town area, providing free consultations, medicines, and diagnostic services to over 5,000 families. The clinic is staffed by skilled healthcare professionals and regularly conducts health camps and awareness drives, significantly improving community health outcomes. This impactful collaboration since 2019 has reduced healthcare costs, raised health awareness, and strengthened community well-being—demonstrating the power of CSR in driving meaningful social change.



Combating Coastal Erosion through CSR - Beach Nourishment Initiative

The Visakhapatnam coastline has been witnessing significant erosion, leading to the gradual retreat of the shoreline and posing serious risks to coastal infrastructure, public amenities, and natural habitats. In response to this growing environmental concern, the Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA) has taken a proactive step by allocating funds under its Social Corporate Responsibility (CSR) initiative. The funds have been granted to Dredging Corporation of India Ltd. for carrying out a beach nourishment project. As part of this initiative, sand is being dredged from the seabed and deposited along the eroded stretches of the beach. This sustainable measure not only helps restore the beach profile but also acts as a natural barrier against further coastal erosion, thereby safeguarding the region's coastal assets and preserving the ecological balance.



Green Initiative under Modernisation of Existing Fishing Harbour at Visakhapatnam Port

As part of the modernisation and upgradation of the Fishing Harbour, Visakhapatnam Port Authority (VPA) has implemented a key environmental measure in line with its Green Port initiatives. **An 800 KLD Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) has been constructed to treat city sewage entering into harbour waters.** The treated water is being effectively reused for green belt development and dust suppression, contributing to a cleaner environment and sustainable port operations.



1. STATUTORY COMPLIANCE / LEGAL REQUIREMENT:

VPA is adhering to all the required statutory compliances / regulations / notification issued by MoEF&CC /CPCB/APPCB from time to time.

A. Environmental (Protection) Rules, 1986: Under the extant rules, VPA is obtaining the following in line with the provisions of Gazette Notification, 2006:

- a) **Prior Environment clearance** for the new terminals / modernization and expansion projects.
- b) **Consent for establishment** (CFE) by the successful bidder / operator of the new terminals / projects; and
- c) **Consent for Operation** (CFO) of the Board under section 25/26 of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 & 21/22 of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

CFO for existing VPA berths for the period 2022 – 2026 is valid up to 31.12.2026.

Under the extant rules, VPA is also furnishing the following:

- i) Compliance to the directions issued in Environment Clearance / CFE / CFO from time to time to MoEF&CC / APPCB
- ii) Form-V once in a year to APPCB

B. Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2011:

As per the clause No 3 (i), (a) of the CRZ Notification of 6th January 2011, the expansion and modernization activity at Visakhapatnam port is permissible activity. However, as per the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) notification dated 6th January 2011, the specific HTL/LTL demarcation is required for the projects requiring CRZ clearance. CRZ mapping is required to be done indicating HTL and LTL and proposed project layout for the project by one of the authorized agencies approved by MoEF in a scale of 1:4000. Hence, CRZ mapping for the Visakhapatnam Port has been done through National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai.

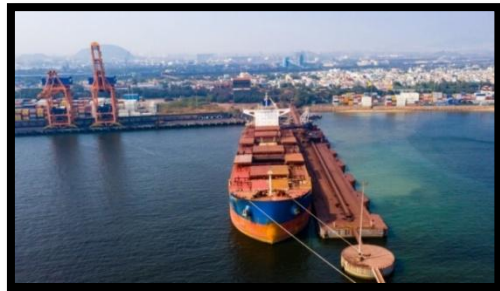
VPA is adhering to the Rules and Regulations as stipulated by APPCB, CPCB, APCZMA, MoEF&CC and also submitting the compliance on the directions issued by statutory authorities from time to time.

Visakhapatnam Port Authority is having separate Environment Management Cell to look after the EMS for Maintaining Harmony between Port Development and Environmental Protection.

2. Existing Environmental Management Practices at VPA:

VPA is taking all possible measures to minimize the emission of dust generating out of cargo handling operations to see that the emissions do not exceed the relevant concentration in ambient air as specified against the pollutant. Towards this end port has initiated several environment pollution mitigative measures which are as follows:

- a. **Mechanization of berths:** Visakhapatnam Port being a bulk cargo handling port and in order to address the dust generation problem, as a continual improvement, it has initiated mechanization of dry bulk cargo handling through BOT/PPP operators at a cost of Rs. 2825.71 Crores. Mechanization of 3 berths for coal and iron ore already completed and other berths is in progress.



- b. **Mechanical Dust Suppression System:** The very first step in controlling and managing the dust generated by dry bulk cargo handling is the **Automated Mechanical Dust Suppression System (AMDSS)** with 185no.s sprinklers of VPA and 200no.s sprinklers of PPP / BOT operators to suppress the dust emissions at berths and stock yards.



- c. **Covering of Coal stacks with tarpaulin:** In order to reduce fugitive dust, Covering of bulk cargo (Coal) stacks and trucks and wagons with tarpaulins which is a continuous activity.



- d. **Construction of Covered storage sheds (4 Nos.)** has taken up by VPA at a cost of Rs.116.04Cr. with storage capacity of 3.22 lakh tonnes and put into operation for storing dusty cargo. In addition 5 No.s sheds constructed by lessees with storage capacity of 3.42 lakhs tonnes.



- e. **Green Belt** was developed around the stack yards and all along the roads and city interface. Plantation programme is being pursued by VPA on a continuous basis for the last 2 decades for continual improvement and addition of Green Belt in and around Port area. Since 1990s 10,30,500 plantation has been done covering an area of 630 Acs at different areas including Port operational areas, residential and city areas. ***85 % Of Survival rate of plants is recorded.*** During the period of maintenance specific teams shall be appointed for close monitoring of the survival rate.



- f. **Truck Mounted Fog Canons:** 4nos Truck Mounted Mist Fogging Canons and 7 trolley mounted Fog cannons deployed to suppress the dust while loading / unloading cargo at berths.



- g. **High rise walls:** Constructed high-rise walls at city interface (of 7.5m + 4m height) for 4Km long from **convent junction to H8 Junction** at a cost of **Rs.23 Crores** as a wind obstrucater to prevent dust emission from the stacks.



- h. **Wetting of Roads through water tankers** is done continuously round the clock to prevent emission of dust due to movement of vehicles. A total of 200 trips of water (about 4.0 MLD) is being sprinkled every day through tankers and 3.0 MLD is being Sprinkled in stacking areas through Mechanical Dust Suppression System.



- i. **Mechanical truck tyre cleaning** facilities at B ramp (June 2016) and ESSAR junction (October 2018) are installed at a cost of Rs.4.0 Cr. + Another One facility is operated by PPP/BOT Operator and Operation and maintenance is in progress on 24 x 7. Proposed to install additional 15 No.s Truck tyre washing facilities at various location of port area, out of which 5 No.s work order issued and work in progress.



- j. **10 MLD STP (Sewage treatment Plant):** is under operation to treat the city sewage and the treated water is utilized for dust suppression system in Port area. The treated water is stored in an open pond and then used for sprinkling purpose for dust suppression.(Refurbishment of existing 10 MLD to 15 MLD is in Progress)In addition 5 MLD STP at SL canal , 3 MLD at Chakaligedd and 1 MLD at Fishing harbour are in progress.



- k. **Road Sweeping:** Regular sweeping of roads with 5 nos of Mechanical Sweeping Machines and with Non-permanent workers for maintaining the roads neat & clean.(Inaddition 2 Nos. Mech Sweeping machines are proposed)



- l. **Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring stations (CAAQMS):**VPA has installed 3 No. of CAAQMS at three locations of port area GCB,R&D YARD, GVMC stadium to monitor the real time air quality parameters. (In addition 3 Nos. CAAQMS work order issued and work is in progress)



- m. **Harbor Water Monitoring:** Raw sewage entering from city drains to harbor water is being done through Analysis and Testing of Raw Sewage

Treated Water at 10 MLD STP of VPA and Monitoring of Harbour Water Quality on periodical basis by authorized agencies.

Harbor water quality analysis is done at 9 locations for physico-chemical parameters on quarterly basis and strict enforcement on ships, prohibiting discharge of bilge or ballast water in the harbor basin. Floating oil boom is provided around the ships to contain oil spills during oil handling operations. Collection of floating debris and garbage is done through floating craft and disposed at GVMC dumping site at Kapuluppada for waste to energy plant.



- n. **Solar Power Supply:** VPA is the First Major Port run on entirely with solar power from 2016. 10MW + 770KW Solar Power Plants installed at a cost of Rs. 65Cr. VPA is the only port in India having 10.77MW capacity of Solar power plant and the generated power is utilized for internal purpose and the remaining power is supplied to APEPDCL.



- o. **Solid Waste Management:** The domestic waste / garbage generated from various residential colonies and work site areas of Visakhapatnam port is collected, transported and dumped at Kapuluppada dumping yard earmarked for dumping by the Municipal Corporation, which is 25 KM away from port on daily, once in a week and twice a week as per the requirement, for further management.

On an average, 180 to 200 tonnes per annum of solid waste is being generated by VPT and the entire quantity is disposed at Kapuluppada, GVMC dumping yard.

- p. **Plastic Waste (Management):** VPA install 3no.s of Floating Trash Barriers along the major city drains to collect the floating plastic material.

The collected plastic waste in the order of about 10,000 cum per annum coming through two major city drains i.e. Gangula gedda and Yerri gedda and entering port waters is removed very frequently and is disposed at Kapuluppada dumping yard, for further management for waste to energy plant by M/s Jindal Urban waste Management Ltd, VSP.

3. PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS IN AIR & WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

- All manual handling bulk cargo will be phased out, by taking up **fully mechanization of dusty cargo** with a provision for dust suppression system.
- To provide **Shore Power Supply to ships** at EQ-1, VCTPL, OSTT & Cruise Terminal in phased manner.
- Construction of **Covered Sheds for storing dry bulk cargo** and open storage of dry bulk cargo will be phased out in a planned manner for minimizing the fugitive emission in the port area.
- VPA will take up hard surfacing the stack yards with well-developed approach roads, **Dome shaped storage sheds** and providing **Truck tyre washing facility at all stack yards** for minimizing fugitive dust emission while plying of cargo trucks to MECON after enter into MoU.
- VPA has engaged NABET consultant to prepare **comprehensive EIA and CRZ** report covering all the activities being carried out by the VPA and private parties in the Port area.
- VPA has engaged consultants to prepare DPR to **establish another 5 MLD STP at SL canal** and augment the existing **10 MLD STP to 15 MLD STP** for the future requirement for dust suppression.
- To establish more No. of **Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS)** in addition to existing 3 CAAQMS to monitor the real time air quality parameters. Continuous Marine Water Quality Monitoring stations (CMWQMS), Online Continuous Effluent Monitoring System (OCEMS) at STP inlet & Outlet, Online sound level meter with DG Set Noise level and providing LED display Board The air & water quality data shall also be transmitted to APPCB online on real time basis.
- To install additional 15 MW solar power plants at various locations in phased manner.

4. **MARITIME VISION 2030:** As per the MoPSW vision for taking India to Global Maritime Leadership, Developing world-class ports infrastructure - Developing 'Smart Ports' to improve Ease of Doing Business - Reducing logistics cost and enabling multi-modal shift - Institutional, regulatory and legislative reforms for ports - Building safe, sustainable and green maritime sector.

