

# **KOLKATA PORT TRUST**

## **ALL TIME RECORD CONTAINER TRAFFIC HANDLED AT KOLKATA DOCK SYSTEM**

Kolkata Dock System (KDS) of Kolkata Port Trust created a history of sorts and scaled a new high in container handling in the current financial year (2014-15). On 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2015, KDS touched the record of handling the highest container traffic i.e. 500447 TEUs (Import - 256679 TEUs and Export - 243768 TEUs) since the inception of containerization at KDS of Kolkata Port Trust (KoPT) in 1979. The Container traffic handled at KDS till 10.3.2015 in 2014-15 is 17.4% higher than the same handled at KDS during similar period of 2013-14, i.e, 426177 TEUs (Import - 218502 TEUs and Export - 207675 TEUs).

On the eve of this momentous achievement, Shri R. P. S. Kahlon, Chairman, Kolkata Port Trust stated that the all time record of container handling could be achieved despite the considerable operational constraints of low navigational draft in the river, unavoidable ship detentions due to lock operations of the impounded dock, tidal dependence in ship movement - which all are unique to a typical riverine port of Kolkata.

Shri Kahlon, Chairman, KoPT further highlighted that despite the trials and challenges in the trade scenario, such a historic achievement could be made possible through technological upgradation in container handling by way of induction of 4 high capacity MHC cranes at three berths and matching back up yard handling equipment (9 RSTs and 30 Trailers, catering to container handling berths of the Terminal) -- supplied and operated by M/s Bharat Kolkata Container Terminals Pvt. Ltd. (a wholly owned unit of PSA International). The induction resulted in achievement of record shift productivity of 325 moves by a single MHC on 11.02.2015, followed by a further high of 410 moves recorded on 08.03.2015. The phenomenal growth achieved in container traffic at KDS in the current fiscal was made possible through unstinted customer support, won over the years through rigorous marketing drives initiated by the KDS officials.

By the end of the current fiscal i.e. upto 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2015, Kolkata Dock System (KDS) expects to handle 520000 TEUs.