



**A Report  
On  
Social Measures Undertaken  
By  
Visakhapatnam Port Trust**

**Submitted to MOEF in connection with the Environment clearance for the project INSTALLATION OF MECHANICAL COAL HANDLING FACILITIES AT GENERAL CARGO BERTH IN THE OUTER HARBOUR OF VISAKHAPATNAM PORT On BOT basis by M/S. Visakhapatnam Port Trust**

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## CHAPTER – I

### **ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN VISAKHAPATNAM PORT TRUST AND GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION FOR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES AND WELFARE MEASURES UNDER THE PROPERTY TAX PAYABLE TO MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

Visakhapatnam Port, one of the major Ports of India, with a natural harbour is located on the Eastern Coast almost midway between Kolkata and Chennai at a latitude of 17° 41' N and longitude 83° 18' in the North East of Andhra Pradesh State. The Port of Visakhapatnam which was opened to commercial shipping in the year 1933 has made relentless efforts to update its facilities in consonance with the changing technological trends in Shipping industry and demand of cargo trade from time to time. From a cargo throughput of 1.30 Lakh tonnes at the time of inception in 1933 – 34, the Port has risen to the status of a mega Port with an annual throughput of 64.60 million Tonnes during 2007-08.

The Visakhapatnam Port, while achieving high traffic growth in terms of cargo throughput, is maintaining harmony between Port development and the community services including environmental protection. Visakhapatnam Port Trust is discharging its responsibility as a corporate citizen in keeping the city clean and green, healthy and aesthetic and also contributing significantly for better civic amenities for the people of Visakhapatnam.

Normally the Municipal Corporation is mandated to maintain and provide requisite civic amenities namely drainage, water supply, street lighting, road maintenance etc., where as the entire Port area is being maintained by the Port itself duly taking care of these civic amenities. As such the Municipal Corporation in true sense is not spending any amount out of the Property Tax collected from Visakhapatnam Port Trust for the aforesaid purpose.

As per the Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation Act 1979, an amount equivalent to 4% of the gross revenue of the Port is required to be paid by VPT towards Property Tax to the Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation which currently works out to **Rs.20.00 crores** per annum.

Upon request made by VPT to the A.P. State Government for proper utilization of the Property Tax payable to Municipal Corporation by VPT for Port area, A.P. State Government issued an order vide G.O.M.S. No. 654 MA, Dt. 19-08-1978 that **“51% of the taxes collected by the Visakhapatnam Municipality from the Visakhapatnam Port Trust be spent on works which will benefit the Port Trust area”**.

Accordingly, 51% of the Property Tax is being spent for various developmental and important schemes useful for the city and common public in the vicinity of the Port.

The pattern of spending the amount of the 51% of the Property Tax is decided with mutual consent by both Visakhapatnam Port Trust and Municipal Corporation duly identifying the schemes required to be implemented. These schemes include construction and maintenance of the roads commonly used by both the city public and the Port traffic at the interface of the city, maintenance of drains discharging city drainage water into Port area, street lighting along these roads and flyovers. The other activities for which this Property Tax is being utilized for the common causes are improvement of hospitals serving the poor people, development and improvement of school buildings, colleges, library, museum etc.,

**ANNEXURE-I**

**WORKS TAKEN UP UNDER 51% TAXES PAYABLE BY VISAKHAPATNAM PORT TRUST TO GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION.**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the work</b>	<b>Amount allocated Rs. in Lakhs</b>
01.	Annual maintenance of Major drains viz., S.L. Canal, Gangulagedda and Yerrigedda	363.57
02.	Strengthening/Repairs to roads commonly used by VPT & Public.	1,608.05
03.	Maintenance of VPT School.	390.00
04.	Funds provided for health improvement/development of Public Hospitals.	250.00
05.	Funds provided for common amenities viz., construction of police welfare complex, construction of sports complex, construction public library etc.,	1,156.97
06.	Construction of 10 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant at Old Town near S.L. Canal.	150.00
07.	Annual Electrical consumption charges for the illumination of Roads and Flyover bridges used by Public and VPT Traffic up to N.H. -5.	16.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,034.59</b>

**SCHEMES IMPLEMENTED/DEVELOPED DIRECTLY BY VISAKHAPATNAM PORT TRUST****1) BEACH NOURISHMENT**

In consonance with the development of Visakhapatnam Outer Harbour in the early 1970s the need for protection of the beach North of Visakhapatnam Port from the adverse affect of erosion due to the natural phenomena on account of sea wave/current action that occurs due to development of such major coastal projects was realized. Therefore, in terms of the recommendations based on model studies carried out by CWPRS, Pune, beach nourishment is being carried out to protect the beach since early 1970s. For the purpose of Beach Nourishment, the sand required is being collected in a huge pit formed in the sea bed called sand trap at the Dolphin Nose Hill and the sand deposited in sand trap through the waves/currents called littoral drift process is dredged and transported by means of dredgers deployed on an annual contract basis. A quantity of about **Rs. 4.00 lakhs** cub. mts. of sand is being dredged (excavated) from sand trap and pumped for the beach nourishment every year. An amount of about Rs 6.00 crores is being incurred by Visakhapatnam Port annually towards the expenditure on account of aforesaid beach nourishment. Also a physical model to study the effectiveness of the above beach protection measure being implemented by VPT is maintained at the CWPRS, Pune at an annual expenditure of about **Rs.15.00 lakhs**. This beach nourishment being carried out for over the last 3 decades shows VPT firm's commitment towards the social obligation for the city public, visitors and fishermen community.

**2) MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADATION WORKS OF DRAINS, CULVERTS CARRYING CITY DRAINAGE :**

Major drains originating from the upper reaches of the city are discharging the drainage water at different locations into the Port area at the interface between the city and the port boundary, which further runs in Port area for considerable length before they finally discharge into sea. These reaches of drains in Port area are being maintained regularly by Visakhapatnam Port. Such regular maintenance involves removal of different types of floating material, garbage, siltation etc., VPT is attending to the maintenance of these drains and culverts to ensure free flow of water and to keep clean environment of harbour waters. An annual expenditure of Rs. 70.00 Lakhs is being incurred by VPT for maintenance of drains, geddas and culverts etc.

In spite of the routine maintenance of the drains and culverts as mentioned above, there is flooding and inundation problem of the Port operational areas and the adjacent city areas on account of the flood discharges received through the drains emanating from the upper reaches of the city. Hence, GVMC and VPT have implemented certain long term measures for flood/inundation control. Accordingly, GVMC and VPT have taken up the following schemes:

- 1) Regularization of the major drains by GVMC in the Municipal limits at a total cost of Rs. 9.21 Crores.
  - 2) Regularization of drains by VPT within Port area at a total cost of Rs. 5.60 Crores.
  - 3) Construction of RCC box type culverts in place of old pipe culverts by VPT at a total cost of Rs. 4.00 Crores.
- 3) **SPORTS & CULTURAL COMPLEX**

In line with the policies of the Government of India for upliftment of Sports & Cultural developments and keeping in view the interest of the city public at large a large Sports complex with various facilities for Sports & Cultural activities was developed by the Visakhapatnam Port in the early 1990s at a cost about Rs.20.00 Crores. This Sports & Cultural Complex was completed in VPT's own land of about 45 acres.

The complex is provided with an Outdoor Stadium of 10,000 spectators capacity and an Indoor Stadium of 3000 spectators capacity, an auditorium of 1400 audience capacity for theatrical performances and Open Air Theatre of 3500 audience capacity including ancillary facilities. Also separate approach roads along with plantation are provided with land scaping of open areas and development of lawns and gardens.

A Volley ball Academy, open courts for volleyball, basketball etc., are also developed in open air places. Training in batches to 60 people annually is being given by Sports Authority of India in Boxing, Volley ball and Basket ball games and hostel facility is available for the trainers in the Sports Complex.

The Auditorium and Stadia are used for

- (a) Hosting International/National level Games and Sports apart from Major Ports Sports Events.
- (b) Facilitating National level meetings, Conferences.
- (c) Auditorium is allocated as function hall for performing marriages, functions, conferences, meetings.

4) **DEVELOPMENT OF ROAD CONNECTIVITY FROM VISAKHAPATNAM PORT TO N.H.-5 :**

A Road running within the Port land was commonly being used historically over a long period by the Port Cargo Traffic and the City public between Port area up to N.H.-5. Due to enormous increase in the traffic and due to the number of road, rail and river crossings, congestion of traffic has increased causing serious concern on safety, time and inconvenience by the public and Port cargo traffic.

Realizing the need to ease congestion of the traffic and to provide alternative route including improving the travel time, a Port Connectivity Road from Visakhapatnam Port to NH-5 with a total length of 12.5 KM comprising of 4.9 KM of Flyovers and Ramps at a total project cost of **Rs.114.00 Crores** was developed and commissioned as a Joint Venture Project with National Highways Authority of India, wherein Visakhapatnam Port Trust contributed **Rs.30.00 Crores**.

To benefit the common public, the two wheelers and three wheelers are permitted to use this facility free of toll fee. This Port Connectivity Road is serving public, industries, defence and many others enabling a unhindered smooth flow by relieving congestion on the other road and reducing the travel distance by about 6 KM saving the time and fuel, thus also helping the environment.

**ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

1. VPT has been accredited with ISO Certification for Environmental Management System i.e. ISO 14001. VPT is also accredited with two other standards on Quality and Safety i.e. ISO 9001 and OSHAS 18001. All the 3 Systems are being audited by an authorized External Agency i.e. IRS on annual basis.
  
2. An Environmental Monitoring Committee (EMC) headed by renowned Environmentalist Prof. T. Shivaji Rao as Chairman of the Committee is in place at VPT with members representing Citizen Welfare Associations, NGOs, Academic Institutions, Industries/Defense, Trade, Observers from APPCB, Government Organisations and Senior Officers of VPT. The Committee reviews the implementation of long term and short term directives issued by APPCB and also reviews the environmental activities to be implemented by VPT. The Committee also inspects various operational areas of the Port and advises improvements on the Environmental activities carried out and gives suggestions for additional Environmental mitigative measures as may be necessary based on the requirements from time to time.  
  
There are 3 Sub-Committees to review and monitor AAQ (Ambient Air Quality), Green Belt Development and Hazard Management. The EMC reviews the findings of the 3 Sub-Committees and advises suitably on the environmental improvement measures.
  
3. There is an exclusive Environment Division at VPT headed by an Executive Engineer with Sub-Divisional Officers, Scientists and Engineers to monitor various Environmental activities at different locations of the Port on the regular basis.

4. The Schemes/Activities under Environmental Management System being implemented by VPT are as under :
  1. Monitoring of Ambient Air Quality at six locations in and around the Port area by Port and third parties like Andhra University Development Center and APPCB.
  2. Monitoring of harbour water quality at regular intervals through Andhra University Development Center.
  3. Monitoring of STP waters before and after treatment at regular intervals by VPT.
  4. Regular monitoring of pollution control measures in and around Port area and residential areas by VPT.
  5. A control room is established at DC's Office as per the Disaster Management Plan prepared by NEERI, Nagpur.
  6. Preparation of Environmental Management Action Plan and Comprehensive Environmental zoning and land use plan for all occupied and unoccupied areas of VPT for the next ten years by VPT through M/s. MECON, Ranchi.
  7. Distribution of pamphlets and display of message boards on Environment Management.
  8. Development of Environmental Parks/ Nurseries and maintenance of Islands in and around Port areas.
  9. Continuous development of Green Belt in and around Port area.
  10. Mechanisation of Cargo Handling Operations in phases.
  11. Monitoring effluent of Port based industries before discharging into Port Waters and ensuring that they possess consent of APPCB for their activities.
  
5. The details of the Capital and Recurring expenditure incurred by VPT on account of Environmental improvement/mitigative measures are as follows :

**ANNEXURE-II****CAPITAL EXPENDITURE INCURRED ON ENVIRONMENT IMPROVEMENT MEASURES.**

S.No.	Description	Amount in Crores
01.	Sewage Treatment Plant 10 MLD (1995)	4.16
02.	Tree Plantation (1999 – 2005)	3.57
03.	Dust Suppression Equipment (2002)	7.40
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>15.13</b>

**ANNUAL RECURRING EXPENDITURE ON ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

S.No.	Description	Amount in Crores
01.	Sand by passing	6.00
02.	Dust Suppression System	1.50
03.	Cleaning & Maintenance of drains discharging into harbour	0.50
04.	Continued plantation of saplings	0.30
05.	Monitoring of ambient air quality at 6 locations (AU, APPCB)	0.60
06.	Maintenance of Harbour water quality	0.10
07.	Environment cell expenditure and environment	0.30
08.	Maintenance of oil recovery craft	0.30
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>11.00</b>

**OTHER PROPOSALS**

S.No.	Description	Amount in Crores	Expected date of Completion
01.	MDSS at East Yards and Ore handling complex.	16.00	March, 2009
02.	Conversion of existing pipe culverts	3.00	June 2008
03.	Augmentation of STP in I-Town area (by GVMC).	8.90	December, 2009
04.	Mechanization of Coking coal at GCB	340.00	March, 2010
05.	Up-gradation of Road Network including Flyovers.	150.00	2006 - 2010