

LPAI CONNECT

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LAND PORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA



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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

LPAI wishes all its readers a very happy and productive new year!

I am pleased to bring to you Issue 1 of the Second Volume of the 'LPAI Connect' Newsletter. This issue aims to disseminate the key developments and activities undertaken by the Land Ports Authority of India across all operational and upcoming Integrated Check Posts during the period of December 2021 to March 2022.

On 1st March 2022, LPAI completed a decade of its establishment. I am happy to inform that since the inception of the first ICP at Attari in 2012, LPAI has facilitated cross-border trade worth Rs 460,455 crores across all its operational ICPs. Cross-border movement of more than 40 lakh cargo vehicles has also been facilitated by LPAI. The Authority has played an instrumental role in creating a truly seamless passenger experience by facilitating cross-border passenger movement of over 1.20 crore people.

LPAI celebrated its 10th Foundation Day at a function organized at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 17th March 2022. Union Home and Co-operation Minister, Shri Amit Shah graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Shri. Amit Shah E-inaugurated residential complex for the personnel of Border Guarding Force at ICP Attari and also inaugurated

LPAI's flagship journal 'Land Ports and Border Economy' published by the Taylor and Francis group during the event.

On 10th February 2022, Bhoomi Pujan was performed for the development of ICP Sabroom in the state of Tripura. In the same month, LPAI signed the MoU for Development of IWT at Srimantapur with Inland Waterways Authority and Transport Department Government of Tripura. In December 2021, LPAI hosted the fourth meeting of India-Bangladesh Sub-group on Infrastructure of ICPs/LCSs on 28-30 December 2021 at New Delhi.

As you are aware, India is celebrating Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. As part of AKAM, several activities have been organized by the ICPs in the FY 2021-22. This Issue also presents a visual compendium of our AKAM celebrations.

This newsletter highlights these updates and many more. I hope you take out some time from your busy schedule and glimpse through these updates.

Shri Aditya Mishra

Chairman LPAI

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I. Key Developments

Inauguration of BGF Accommodation at ICP Attari

On the occasion of the 10th Foundation Day of the Land Port Authority of India, Honourable Union Minister for Home Affairs E-inaugurated Attari Bhoomi residential complex for the personnel of Border Guarding Force which will provide better residential facility to the security personnel.

On 17th December 2018, the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) approved the construction of Border Guarding Force (BGF) accommodation at 07 ICP locations of Phase – I ICPs at an estimated cost of 194.83 cr. IRCON ISL was appointed PMC for these 7 locations. The 7 locations included-Attari, Agartala, Petrapole, Raxaul, Jogbani, Moreh and Dawki.

On 29th October 2018, the development work of BGF Accommodation at ICP Attari was awarded to M/s Nirman Construction. The Foundation Stone for the facility was laid down by Former Home Ministry Shri. Rajnath Singh on 22.01.2019.

Salient Features of BGF Accommodation at ICP Attari

Total Accommodation will be around 470 personnel. It will provide accommodation for 4 companies of BGF Spread over 3.3 acres with a built-up area of 11600 sqm. BGF Complex has 4 building

1. Officer's Block
2. Sub-ordinate Block
3. Mahila Block
4. Jawan Barrack



Bhoomi Pujan at ICP Sabroom

On 10th February 2022, Bhoomi Pujan was performed for the development of ICP Sabroom in the state of Tripura. The ceremony was performed in the presence of Chairman LPAI, MLA Sabroom, SDM, PM SSC Projects amongst others.

The date of start of work was 28th December 2021. The project duration is 16 months, and the target date of completion is May 2023.



India – Bangladesh Border



Project approved – 232.07 Cr



Total Plot Area – 49.078 Acre



Built up Area – 20000 Sqm (approx.)



Stage - Land Acquisition





LPAI Takes Over Operations at ICP Jogbani

On 19th March 2022, LPAI started cargo operations at ICP Jogbani in the state of Bihar. The Commissioner of Customs (Preventive), Patna has appointed LPAI as a Customs Cargo Service Provider under HCCAR-2009 at the ICP.



Signing of MoU for Development of IWT at Srimantapur

LPAI signed the MoU for Development of IWT at Srimantapur with Inland Waterways Authority and Transport Department Government of Tripura on 15th February 2022 in the presence of Shri Sarbananda Sonwal, Hon'ble Minister for Ports Shipping & Waterways India, Shri Biplab Deb Hon'ble Chief Minister Tripura and Shri Pranajit Singha Roy Hon'ble Minister Transport Tripura.

LPAI operates an ICP at Srimantapur. Located on the banks of the Gomati River, the ICP has tremendous potential for facilitating multi-modal movement of trade and transit cargo between India and Bangladesh. IWAI has already set up a temporary floating jetty on the Gomati River at Srimantapur which has allowed the movement of ferries

and boats with capacity of up to 50 tons to pass through this route. As part of the recent MoU agreement, ten new jetties will be built on the Gomati River which will strengthen trade and connectivity between India and Bangladesh.

This development will also go a long way in fulfilling the vision of PM Gati Shakti of promoting multi-modal transportation and having more coordinated planning and execution of infrastructure projects to reduce logistics costs in India.



II. Recent Activities

LP AI Celebrates 10th Foundation Day

LP AI celebrated its 10th Foundation Day at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi on 17th March 2022. Union Home and Co-operation Minister, Shri Amit Shah was the chief guest on the occasion. He spoke about the historical significance of land routes in development of the Indian subcontinent and enhancing the people to people connect. He lauded the progress achieved by LP AI in the short span of 10 years for secure trade and people movement. He highlighted how LP AI plays a crucial role in facilitation of trade with India's neighbours. Shri. Amit Shah advised LP AI to plan considering the next 25 years with clear identifiable targets of 1 year and 5 years. He mentioned some of the new initiatives being undertaken at land ports. He also highlighted the global impact of facilities such as Dera Baba Nanak on the sentiments of people. Shri. Amit Shah felicitated the staff of various ICPs under the purview of LP AI for their commitment and dedicated service towards the nation. Shri. Amit Shah also inaugurated LP AI's flagship journal 'Land Ports and Border Economy' published by the Taylor and Francis group during the event.

The event also included two Technical Sessions on topics of immense importance to cross-border trade. The first Technical Session was on 'Unlocking Potential of Cross Border Trade through Land Ports' which was chaired by Dr. Dharmendra Singh Gangwar, Secretary Border Management, Ministry of Home Affairs. The panellists

included Jayant Singh, Vice-Chairman, Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), Manoj Singh, Executive Director (Traffic Transportation-Freight), Ministry of Railways, Constantino Xavier, Fellow, Centre for Social and Economic Progress (CSEP), Kiran Gitte, Secretary, Directorate of Urban Development Department, Government of Tripura, Prabir De, Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) and Satish Reddy, Trade Facilitation Expert, Asian Development Bank. H. E Vikram K. Doraiswami, High Commissioner of India to Bangladesh also delivered his address virtually during the session.

The second technical session was on 'Vision 2047-LP AI Smart Ports: Making Borders Invisible' and was chaired by Shri. Satish Reddy, Trade Facilitation Expert, Asian Development Bank. The panellists included Dr. Sunil Kumar Barnwal, Joint Secretary (Border Management-II), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, Nilaya Mitash, Principal Operations Coordination Specialist (Regional Cooperation), Asian Development Bank (ADB), India Resident Mission, Afaq Hussain, Director, Bureau of Research on Industry and Economic Fundamentals (BRIEF), Abhishek Chaudhary, National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC), Sohel Kazani, Managing Director, Bharat Freight Group and Rajeev Puri, Executive Director (IT)/ CAO, Indian Ports Association.

The Foundation Day event was attended by senior officers of Government of India, thinktanks, academicians and industry experts.



10TH FOUNDATION DAY





10TH FOUNDATION DAY



Spotlight Discussion on “A Decade of Land Ports Authority of India: Transforming India’s Land Ports to Smart Ports”

On 16th March 2022, a special discussion on “A Decade of Land Ports Authority of India: Transforming India’s Land Ports to Smart Ports” was aired by the News Services Division of All India.

The participants included Rekha Raikar Kumar, Member (Finance), LPAI and Afaq Hussain, Co-Founder and Director of Bureau of Research on Industry & Economic Fundamentals (BRIEF).

Source: AIR brings discussion on “A decade of Land Ports Authority of India: Transforming India’s Land Ports to Smart Ports” in Spotlight (newsonair.gov.in)

Participating in the discussion Rekha Raikar Kumar said the Land Ports Authority of India was established by the Ministry of Home Affairs to set up sufficient land ports across the 15,000 kms of India’s land border, to promote trade, tourism, people to people connectivity and become an efficient bridge for South Asia. Afaq Hussain added land ports being one of the most important instruments for international trade in a landlocked environment like South Asia.



SPOTLIGHT

**A decade of Land Ports Authority of India:
TRANSFORMING INDIA’S LAND PORTS TO SMART PORTS**

**PARTICIPANTS : Smt Rekha Raikar Kumar, Member (Finance), Land Ports Authority of India
Mr. Afaq Hussain, Co-Founder & Director (BRIEF)**




[@airnewsalerts](https://www.instagram.com/airnewsalerts)

www.newsonair.com

[newsonairofficial](https://www.youtube.com/newsonairofficial)

Port Level Coordination Committee Meeting between Akhaura–Agartala Land Port

On 30th March 2022, the Fourth Port Level Coordination Committee Meeting between the Land Ports of Akhaura (Bangladesh) and Agartala (India) was held at Akhaura ICP,

Bangladesh. The Indian side was headed by the Manager, ICP Agartala, LPAI and the Bangladesh side was headed by the Assistant Director, Traffic, Bangladesh Land Port Authority. Other stakeholders such as Customs, Plant Quarantine and Border Guarding Forces also participated in the meeting.



Chairman BLPA Visits ICP Sutarkandi

On 9th March 2022, Chairman, Bangladesh Land Port Authority visited ICP Sutarkandi. His Excellency held a brief discussion with stakeholders of the ICP and trade associations of Karimganj. During the meeting, Chairman BLPA also assured cooperation for smooth and seamless movement of cross-border trade and passenger movement.



Fourth Meeting of Sub-group On Infrastructure of ICPs/LCs

The fourth meeting of India-Bangladesh Sub-group on Infrastructure of ICPs/LCSs was held on 28-30 December 2021 at New Delhi, India. Both Indian and Bangladesh officials visited ICPs at Attari and Dera Baba Nanak, Gurdaspur in the state of Punjab on India-Pakistan border to oversee the infrastructure available and to study the procedures adopted for the safe and seamless movement of passengers and cargo at both the ICPs. The Indian delegation was led by Shri Aditya Mishra, Chairman LPAI

and Bangladesh delegation was led by Mr. Md. Alamgir, Additional Secretary and Chairman, BLPA.

Chairman LPAI conveyed to the Bangladesh delegation on the status of Land Ports along the Indo-Bangladesh border. Affirming the importance of Bangladesh in India's Neighbourhood First Policy, Chairman LPAI called for greater cooperation between land port authorities and stakeholders to facilitate seamless and secured cross-border trade. He reiterated India's commitment for mutual development of trade infrastructure and the need for harmonized efforts and efficient resolution of the existing issues. Chairman LPAI highlighted that both the agencies have made significant progress since the last meeting held in Cumilla in February 2021 and that the current meeting will give both sides an opportunity for a timely stocktaking on the status of developmental works at various land ports of the two countries.

The progress on the decisions taken during the third meeting of the sub-group on infrastructure of ICPs/LCSs between Bangladesh and India held at Cumilla, Bangladesh on 9-11 February 2021 was reviewed by the members of the delegations from Bangladesh and India. The delegations from both sides took up significant bilateral issues related to land port/ICP/LCS and infrastructure such as construction within 150 yards of zero line-developmental related issues; SOP to be adopted for timely completion of development activities within 150 yards of India-Bangladesh border; second cargo trade gate at ICP Petrapole; joint training between LPAI and BLPA Officials; operationalization of ICP Petrapole on 24 X 7 basis; detention of export vehicles amongst other issues of importance.

Both the sides appreciated the progress made in the bilateral trade and commercial relations between India and Bangladesh and agreed to further strengthen the existing cooperation. The next meeting of the Subgroup on Infrastructure is scheduled to be held in Bangladesh.



4 MEETING INDIA-BANGLADESH SUB GROUP ON INFRASTRUCTURE OF LCS/ICPS 28-30 DECEMBER 2021, NEW DELHI





Technical Meeting Regarding Proposed Second Cargo Gate at ICP Petrapole

On 24th February 2022, a discussion was held on the proposed second cargo gate between India and Bangladesh at ICP Petrapole. The technical team from Bangladesh Land Port Authority led by Md. Sarwar Alam, Joint Secretary and Project Director BRCP-1, BLPA and other officers visited ICP Petrapole for finalization of the construction of the proposed second cargo gate. The Indian side was led by Mr. Giteshdeep Singh Sandhu, Director (Projects), LPAI and the delegation comprised of EE (Civil) and Manager, ICP Petrapole. The joint team conducted field visit to the location of the proposed cargo gate. Discussions were held on the Architectural Design and Drawing of the proposed gate.



Celebrating International Women’s Day at LPAI HQ

International Women’s Day is celebrated every year around the world on 8th March to commemorate the political, cultural, and socio-economic achievements of women.

The purpose of the day is to specifically uphold women’s achievements, recognize challenges, and focus greater attention on women’s rights and gender equality.

The Land Ports Authority of India endeavours to promote sustainable and inclusive growth of the Authority by focussing on creating a gender inclusive workplace that benefits everyone. To celebrate the power of womanhood, a small celebration of Women’s Day was organized at Conference Hall, LPAI HQ on 8th March 2022 at 5 PM.

The event was chaired by Shri Aditya Mishra, Chairman LPAI. During the gathering, Smt. Rekha Raikar Kumar, Member (Finance) LPAI delivered a motivating speech on the empowerment of women. A movie titled “Crossing the River of Life” directed by Mallika Sothinathan was screened on the occasion. The event was attended by over 25 female employees of LPAI. A pledge to honour and respect the diverse role of women was also taken on the occasion.



India Sends First Shipment of 2,500 Tonne Wheat to Afghanistan via ICP Attari

On 22nd February 2022, India sent the first shipment of 2,500 tonnes of wheat to Afghanistan via ICP Attari, over four months after announcing the humanitarian aid for the Afghan people. In a ceremony held at ICP Attari, India's Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla and Afghanistan's Ambassador to India Farid Mamundzay flagged off the first convoy of 50 trucks carrying the consignment.

As per a statement released by the Ministry of External Affairs, "The shipment is part of the commitment made by the Government of India to supply 50,000 metric tonnes of wheat for the people of Afghanistan. The wheat assistance will be delivered in multiple consignments and will be handed over to the United Nations World Food Program (WFP) in Jalalabad, Afghanistan."



III. Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is an initiative of the Government of India to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of independence and the glorious history of its people, culture, and achievements (<https://amritmahotsav.nic.in>). This Mahotsav is dedicated to the people of India who have not only been instrumental in bringing India thus far in its evolutionary journey but also hold within them the power and potential to enable Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of activating India 2.0, fuelled by the spirit of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

The official journey of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav commenced on 12th March 2021 which started a 75-week countdown to our 75th anniversary of independence and will end post a year on 15th August 2023. As part of AKAM, several activities have been organized by the ICPs in the FY 2021-22.

These activities were diverse in nature. Some of the important activities organized include:

1. Cultural programmes such as dance performances by school children, wall paintings by artists, etc.
2. Welfare events such as blood donation camps, eye-checks, vaccination camps etc.
3. Social events such as felicitation of freedom fighters, war widows, etc.
4. Beautification events such as tree plantation drives, etc.
5. Sports activities such as cycle rallies, football matches, etc.

These activities were diverse in nature and covered cultural, social, welfare, social and beatification activities. A snapshot of the activities organized at nine Land Ports is presented in the next few pages.



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आज़ादी का
अमृत महोत्सव

ATTARI



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आज़ादी का
अमृत महोत्सव

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AGARTALA



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JOGBANI



मंगलवार को जोगबनी आईसीपी में आयोजित अमृत महोत्सव में अधिकारी व अन्य।
नेत्र जांच शिविर में लोगों का हुआ मुफ्त ईलाज

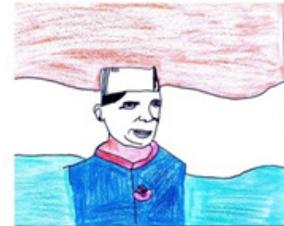


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SRIMANTAPUR



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अमृत महोत्सव

SUTARKANDI



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आज़ादी का
अमृत महोत्सव



LPAI Welcomes Director (Technical)

LPAI extends a warm welcome to Lt. Col. Giteshdeep Singh Sandhu for assuming charge as Director (Technical), LPAI w.e.f 21st January 2022.

Lt. Col. Singh is an officer of 2001 batch Indian Army. Prior to joining LPAI, he has a wide experience and has held postings at Corps of Engineer, Army Aviation, MES and Area HQ. He holds a M. Tech Degree in Thermal Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi.

The LPAI team is delighted to welcome you on board!



EDITORIAL TEAM



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