

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 share with you the first issue of the third volume of the "LPAI Connect" newsletter. The purpose of this issue is to share the significant developments and activities carried out by the Land Ports Authority of India across all operational and upcoming land ports from 1st September 2022 to 31st December 2022.

LPAI is taking several measures to enhance cross-border trade and passenger movement through India's land borders. For instance, a "Meet and Greet" Passenger Facilitation Desk was established by M/S Hindustan Tour and Travels on 16th November 2022 at Land Port Agartala. Zenith FOREX also began operations on 2nd September 2022 at PTB-1 at Land Port Petrapole. Furthermore, a Duty-Free Shop on the arrival and departure side of PTB-1 at Land Port Petrapole began operations for international travellers on 24th November 2022.

I am delighted to inform you that the Land Ports at Rupaidiha, located in the Bahraich district of Uttar Pradesh along the Indo-Nepal border, Dawki, located in the West Jaintia Hills in Meghalaya along Indo-Bangladesh border and Sabroom,

located in the South Tripura district of Tripura along the Indo-Bangladesh border, are in the final stages of construction. These three ports are expected to be operationalized in the first half of 2023. The newsletter presents progress photos of two of these upcoming land ports-Rupaidiha and Sabroom.

To improve the capacity of our employees, LPAI, in partnership with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, organized a joint training program at the FSSAI HQ FDA Bhawan from 3-4 November 2022. Our aim is to conduct similar training programs to enhance capacity and operational efficiency.

During the Swachhata Pakhwada Special Campaign 2.0, all the operational land ports conducted an extensive cleanliness drive. A pictorial snapshot of the Swachhata Pakhwada activities organized at the operational land ports is presented in this Newsletter.

This newsletter highlights these updates and more. I encourage you to take a few moments from your busy schedule and peruse these updates.

Shri Aditya Mishra
Chairman LPAI

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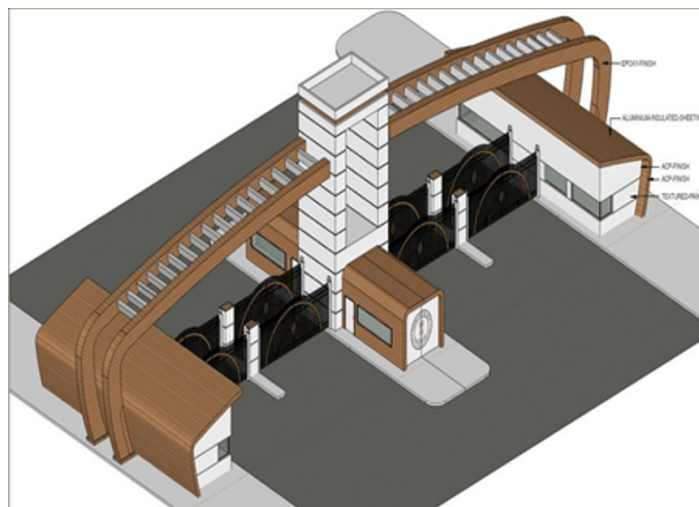
I. Key Developments

Close of Old Raxaul LCS Route

As per Public Note No. 07/2022 issued on 30th December 2022, all export and import cargo movement would now be routed through the Land Port at Raxaul, as the port is now fully operational. Trade movement would no longer be conducted via the LCS at Raxaul. A dedicated route to ICP Main Road from Raxaul Railway Siding via Bodhi Mai temple is also now operational.

Construction of Second Cargo Gate 'Maitri Dwaar' at Land Port Petrapole

In order to ease and streamline the daily cross-border traffic movement at Land Port Petrapole (~600-700 trucks per day), there is a proposal to establish a common second cargo gate along the India-Bangladesh border. It is for the first time a joint facility is being constructed between India and Bangladesh. The *Maitri Dwaar* will enable agencies from both sides to sit and operate from the same premise. This facility will be the first of its kind on the zero line. It will have a dedicated gate for cargo movement. There is a separate road being planned for movement of Indian and Bangladeshi trucks. The construction of Maitri Dwaar is expected to speed up the release/clearance of goods at the border.



On 22nd November 2022, a coordination meeting was held at Mukhya Bhawan of Land Port Petrapole to discuss the progress of the same. The delegation from Bangladesh included the concerned BGB Commandant and representatives from Bangladesh Land Port Authority. Representatives from Land Ports Authority of India along with officers from other PGASs attended the meeting. The discussion agenda was to chalk out the modalities for smooth and hassle-free construction of the second cargo gate between India and Bangladesh.





Passenger Facilitation Desk at Land Port Agartala

Facilitation Desk by M/S Hindustan Tour and Travels was set up at Land Port Agartala. The desk provides paid assistance to international passengers crossing the Port.

On 16th November 2022, a "Meet and Greet" Passenger



PASSENGER FACILITATION DESK AT AGARTALA



FOREX Facility and Duty-Free Shop at Land Port Petrapole

On 2nd September 2022, Zenith FOREX commences its operations at PTB-1 at Land Port Petrapole. There are two FOREX counters being operated at the arrival and departure sections of the PTB/ Additionally, taxi and ambulance services are also being provides for enabling smoother and convenient passenger facilitation services.

On 24th November 2022, a Duty-Free Shop on the arrival and departure side of PTB-1 at Land Port Petrapole commenced its operations for international travellers. Port stakeholders, officers and Managing Director, Agate International Group Managing Director wawas present during the occasion.



FOREX FACILITY AT PETRAPOLE





DUTY FREE AT PETRAPOLE

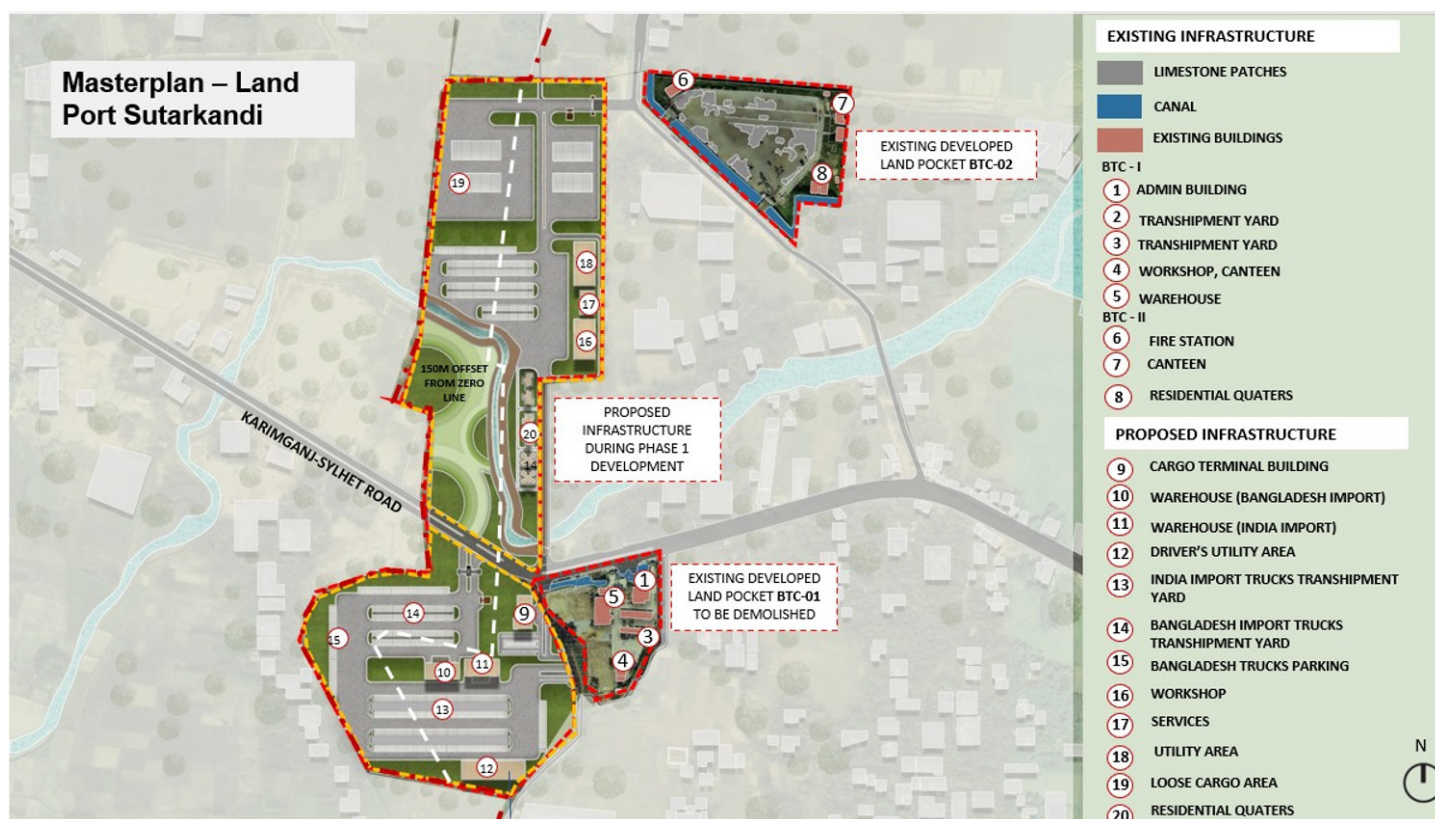


Development of Land Port Sutarkandi

The development of Land Port at Sutarkandi, Assam was approved by CCS approved on 17-12-2018. With a total project value of Rs 194.44 Cr, the total plot area required

for development of the Land Port was 88 acres. Initially the total land in possession with LPAI was 30.23 acres. On 9th November 2022, LPAI took over the remaining 58 acres of land at zero line from the District Administration for the development of Land Port Sutarkandi.





Upcoming Land Ports–Rupaidiha and Development of Land Port Sutarkandi

Land Port at Rupaidiha, located in the Bahraich district of Uttar Pradesh along Indo-Nepal border and Land Port at

Sabroom, located in South Tripura district in Tripura along the Indo-Bangladesh border are at advanced stages of construction. These two ports are proposed to be operationalized in the first half of year 2023.



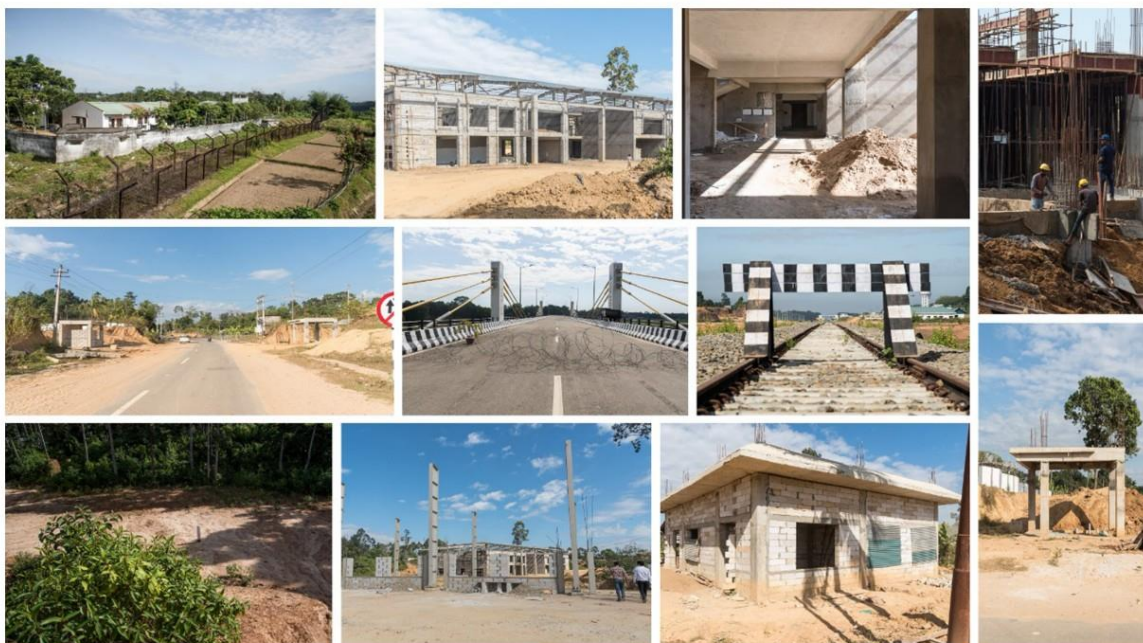
UPCOMING LAND PORTS



LAND PORT RUPAIDIHA



LAND PORT SABROOM



II. Recent Activities

Business Delegation from Thailand visits Land Port Moreh

A 13-member Thai business delegation led by Ambassador of Thailand to India, HE Pattarat Hongtong visited Land Port Moreh on 22nd September 2022 and held a meeting with the port stakeholders.

Manager, ICP Moreh, T Baite, SP LCS Moreh, SK Gangte, senior immigration officer Y Anand, deputy commandant, 5 AR, Mahes Dutta, and president KSO Moreh block Lalhrietsang Hmar attended the meeting with the Thai officials from Royal Thai Embassy New Delhi, Foreign affairs and Chamber of Commerce.

The delegates included four officials from Royal Thai Embassy New Delhi, three officials from Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, and six officials from six different chambers of Commerce. They discussed various issues related to Trade

and Commerce between the two countries.

Manager, Land Port Mr. Baite highlighted the purpose and various functions of the Land Port in regard to trade with South East Asian nations while Y Krishna Anand- Senior immigration officer informed the Thai delegates about the current situation along the border and its impact on cross border movement of people and goods.¹

Post the visit, H.E Ms. Pattarat Hongtong expressed her gratitude to Manager, Land Port Moreh and its stakeholders in a letter wherein she mentioned that *"I truly appreciate the opportunity to visit the Moreh-Tamu border and learned a great deal about the opportunities and challenges in regional infrastructure connectivity and cross-border passenger movements facilitated by ICP Moreh was very informative"*.

Source: IFP and LPAI



Visit of British Deputy High Commissioner, Kolkata to Land Port Agartala

On 31st October 2022, Mr. Nick Low, British Deputy High Commissioner to Kolkata, visited Land Port Agartala. He was accompanied by a study team from CUTS International. The Manager, Land Port Agartala welcomed Mr. Low and



provided him an overview of the role and functions of LPAI. Extensive discussions were held on the prospects of multi-modality transportation via Land Ports.

1. <https://www.ifp.co.in/manipur/thai-business-delegation-visits-moreh>



LPAI-FSSAI Joint Training

LPAI in association with the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India organized a joint training program for its officers at the FSSAI HQ FDA Bhawan from 3-4 November 2022. The welcome address was delivered by Shri Rajeev

Kumar Jain, ED (HR), FSSAI. Shri Sanjeev Gupta, Member (P&D), LPAI delivered the inaugural remarks. The keynote address was delivered by Shri S Gopalakrishnan, CEO, FSSAI following which the training sessions commenced. On day 2, FSSAI organized a field visit to their laboratory for better understanding of the requirement and modality of testing.



LPAI-FSSAI JOINT TRAINING



Visit of Member (Compliance Management), CBIC to Land Port Moreh

On 15th November 2022, Shri Sanjay Kumar Agarwal : Member (Compliance Management), Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs visited Land Port Moreh. He was given an



overview of the port facilities. The key functions of various stakeholders present at the port were also discussed. In the visitor book, Shri SK Agarwal praised the port facilities and mentioned *"very impressive facility created by LPAI"*. The port Manager presented a tribal scarf to Shri SK Agarwal as a token of gratitude for visiting Land Port Moreh.



HIV Screening Camp and Awareness Program at Land Port Petrapole

On 1-2nd December 2022, a two-day HIV Screening Camp and Awareness Program was held at Land Port Petrapole. The health camp was organized in association with the

Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, North 24 Parganas, Government of West Bengal. The objective of the health screening and awareness camp was to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS, and to show support for those living with HIV/AIDS.





Hindi Pakhwada Celebration at Land Ports

Hindi Pakhwada was celebrated at Land Ports in the month of September 2022. Various competitions such as

essay writing, Hindi translation, poem & story writing, etc were organized. All employees, staff and stakeholders enthusiastically participated in the events. The Government



HINDI PAKHWADA



III. Rashtriya Ekta Diwas

of India observes the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel as the 'Rashtriya Ekta Diwas' (National Unity Day) on 31st October every year. This occasion provides an opportunity to re-affirm the inherent strength and resilience of our nation to withstand the actual and potential threats to the

unity, integrity and security of our country. At LPAI HQ and across all Land Ports, officers and staff took Rashtriya Ekta Diwas Pledge to solemnly dedicate themselves to preserve the unity, integrity and security of the nation and strive hard to spread this message among their fellow countrymen. The observance of Ekta Diwas is represented visually below.



EKTA DIWAS





IV. Land Ports observed Swachhata Pakhwada

Under Swachhata Pakhwada Special Campaign 2.0 wef from 2nd October 2022, all the operational Land Ports undertook a cleanliness drive. The following key activities were carried out during the implementation phase—disposal of all identified pending references, review of physical records as well as e-records, disposal of scrap as per laid

down procedures, etc. Pictures were clicked both BEFORE and AFTER the drive to document the visible difference. A pictorial snapshot of the Swachhata Pakhwada activities organized at the operational Land Ports is presented below.



SWACCHATA PAKHWADA



V. Celebrating Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav

Under the aegis of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' (AKAM), all the Land Ports organized a plethora of activities that were diverse in nature and covered cultural, social, welfare, social and beatification activities. These activities allowed

participants to express their patriotic ideals and showcase their talent. All stakeholders participated in these events with great zeal and enthusiasm.

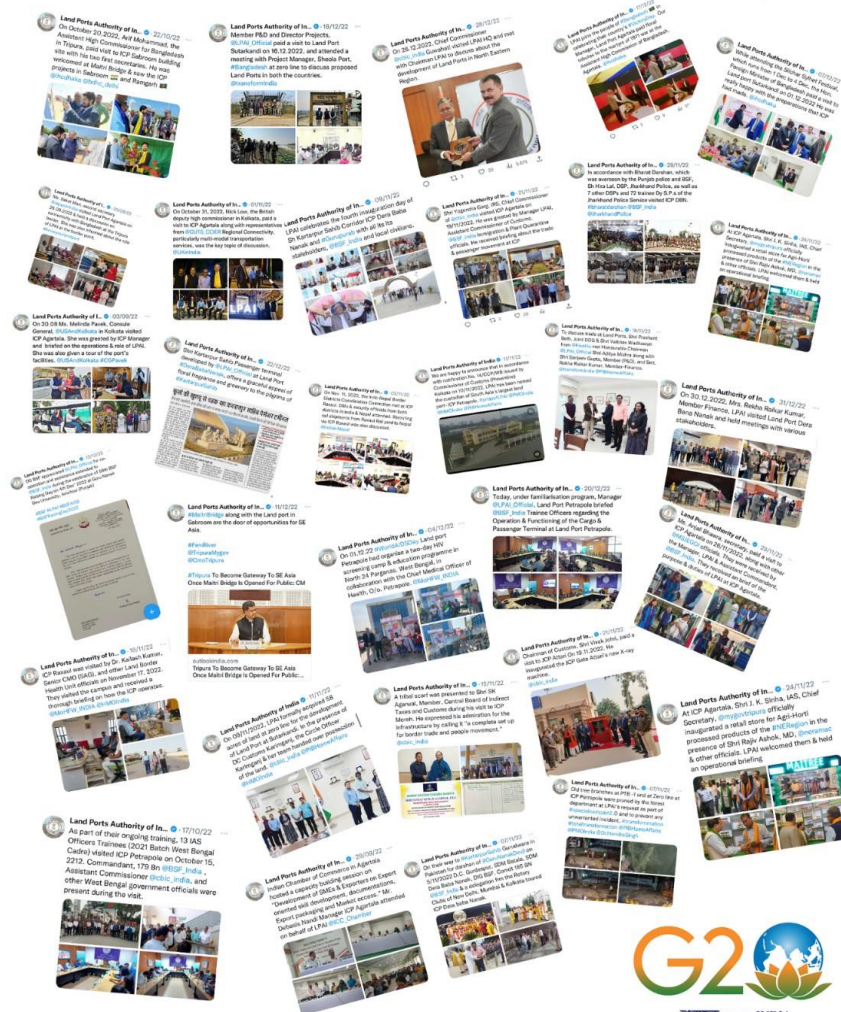


AKAM CELEBRATIONS





MAJOR EVENTS



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