

# LPAI CONNECT

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LAND PORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA



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## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Dear Readers,

It is with great pride that I present to you the latest issue of our "LPAI Connect" newsletter, encapsulating the significant milestones and initiatives undertaken by the Land Ports Authority of India from October 2023 to February 2024.

This period has been marked by notable achievements and strategic collaborations. We had the honor of hosting Shri Nitin Gadkari, Minister of Road Transport & Highways, at Land Port Attari, where he witnessed firsthand our efforts in enhancing trade operations with Afghanistan. Our commitment to maintaining a vigilant and corruption-free environment was reinforced during the Vigilance Awareness Week observed across all our land ports and headquarters.

We also witnessed significant international collaboration during the 5th Bangladesh-India Sub-Group Meeting on ICPs/LCSs Infrastructure in Dhaka, underscoring our dedication to fostering robust cross-border trade and connectivity with Bangladesh.

This quarter LPAI disseminated findings of two of its research studies—"Ease of Trading Across Borders" by CUTS International which has suggested action points

for infrastructure improvement at 10 Land Ports and "Engendering Land Ports in India" conducted by Mahila Housing Trust which has set a new benchmark for gender-inclusive infrastructure, reinforcing our vision for inclusive and responsive land ports.

Our partnership with the iGOTKarmayogi platform and various training workshops, including those on visual storytelling and POSH, have significantly contributed to capacity building and professional development within our organization. These initiatives are integral to our mission of fostering a culture of continuous learning and excellence.

As we move forward, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the entire LPAI family for their unwavering dedication and hard work. Together, we are making significant strides towards enhancing the efficiency, safety, and inclusivity of India's land ports.

**Shri Aditya Mishra**  
**Chairman LPAI**

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## I. Key Developments

### Shri Nitin Gadkari visits Land Port Attari

On October 19, 2023, Shri Nitin Gadkari, Minister of Road Transport & Highways visited Land Port Attari, where he was briefed on the port's operations and strategic role in enhancing trade with Afghanistan. This visit provided an invaluable opportunity to present a detailed overview of the facilities and functioning of the port, emphasizing its pivotal role in facilitating transit trade between the two nations.

The briefing focused on the operational prowess and strategic significance of Land Port Attari, illustrating its essential role in promoting seamless cross-border trade and connectivity. The insights provided were aimed at enriching Hon'ble Ministers understanding of the port's capabilities and its crucial contribution to the regional trade dynamics.





### Vigilance Awareness Week at LPAI

From October 16 to November 5, 2023, LPAI launched Vigilance Awareness Week across its headquarters and all land ports. This initiative was marked by the participation of staff and stakeholders who pledged to maintain a

vigilant and corruption-free environment. The week was dedicated to reinforcing the importance of ethical conduct and transparency in operational practices. This campaign not only emphasizes LPAI's commitment to high ethical standards but also aims to foster a culture of integrity and vigilance.

**News letter**  
30<sup>th</sup> OCT-5<sup>th</sup> NOV 2023

**VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK**  
सतर्कता जागरुकता सप्ताह

**Vigilance Awareness Week**  
The Land Port Authority of India is observing Vigilance Awareness Week from Oct 30 to Nov 5, 2023. Together, we build a stronger and more vigilant India!

## 5th Bangladesh-India Sub-Group Meeting on ICPs/LCSs Infrastructure

The 5th Bangladesh-India Sub-Group Meeting on Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) and Land Customs Stations (LCSs) Infrastructure was convened in Dhaka, signifying a crucial collaborative effort between the two nations on 4-5 November 2024. Led by Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman Chowdhury, Chairman of the Bangladesh Land Port Authority (BLPA), the Bangladeshi delegation actively participated in the discussions. The Indian delegation, headed by Shri Aditya Mishra, Chairman LPAI, equally engaged in the meeting, highlighting the commitment of both nations to fostering cooperation in the domains of trade and passenger movement. The meeting emphasized the importance of enhancing infrastructure at ICPs and LCSs, reflecting a shared dedication to facilitating smooth and efficient cross-border activities between Bangladesh and India.

During the session, several issues were discussed including- Joint gate at Agartala-Akhaura Land Ports, Operationalization of Sabroom-Ramgarh Land Ports; SOP for handling port level cross border meetings; Development of LCS/Land port Theghamukh (Bangladesh)- Kawrpuipucchuah (Mizoram) India; Shifting LCS Khowaighat to Paharmura (Balla) and developing Infrastructures; Establishing port facilities at Ghojadanga (Bhomra), Changrabandha (Burimari); Mahadipur (Sonamasjid), Hili (Hili) and Ghasuapara (Gobrakura- Koroitali) LCSs and many more.

The meeting concluded on a positive note emphasizing greater need for collaboration and coordination between LPAI and BLPA for strengthening infrastructure development and connectivity.



# News letter

04<sup>th</sup>-05<sup>th</sup> NOV 2023



## 5th Bangladesh-India Sub-Group Meeting on ICPs/LCSs Infrastructure held at Dhaka

Bangladeshi delegation led by Mr Md. Zillur Rahman Chowdhury, BLPA Chairman & Indian delegation led by Mr Aditya Mishra, LPAI Chairman commit to cooperation for trade & passenger movement



## Celebrating 11th Foundation Day of Land Port Agartala

The Land Port in Agartala celebrated its 11th Foundation Day with great enthusiasm on November 17, 2023. The event was attended by notable guests, underscoring the port's crucial role in promoting international trade and connections. Distinguished attendees included Shri Dipak Majumder, the Honorable Mayor, and Shri Surajit Datta, the Honorable MLA, whose presence enhanced the celebration. The event

also welcomed Mr. Arif Mohammad, the Assistant High Commissioner of Bangladesh, reflecting the collaborative operations of the land port between the two countries. Shri K.C. Meena, the Director of MBB Airport Agartala, also graced the occasion with his presence. This event not only highlighted the Land Port's achievements over the past 11 years but also focused on the cooperation and partnerships essential for its ongoing success in facilitating cross-border trade and connectivity.

**News letter**  
17<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

**Land Port Agartala celebrates its 11th Foundation Day!**  
Distinguished guests include Sh Dipak Majumder (Hon'ble Mayor), Sh Surajit Datta (Hon'ble MLA), Arif Mohammad (Asst. High Commissioner of Bangladesh), & Sh K.C. Meena (Director, MBB Airport Agartala). 🇮🇳🇬🇧



### Strengthening Trade at Land Port Dawki

Land Port Dawki hosted the first-ever International Meet of Importers and Exporters from India, Bangladesh, and Bhutan on November 25, 2023. Over 150 delegates attended the meet including senior officials from Government of Meghalaya and stakeholder departments such as Customs,

Immigration and Plant Quarantine, representatives from UNESCAP, chambers of commerce etc.

The meet featured the exhibition of product samples and also facilitated signing of multiple MOUs on trade. This meet, first of its kind, not only helped foster trade but also strengthened regional partnerships and holds potential for future economic growth.

**Strengthening Trade at Land Port Dawki**  
1st International meeting of traders from India, Bangladesh & Bhutan. Key govt officials, industry leaders, & delegates collaborate, signing impactful MOUs.

## II. Research Initiatives

### **Dissemination Event: CUTS Report on 'Ease of Trading Across Borders: Status of Land Ports in India'**

On November 22, 2023, a dissemination workshop was conducted at LPAI HQ in New Delhi to discuss and share the findings of the study titled "Improving India's Ease of Trading across Borders: Opportunities and Challenges in Land Ports/Integrated Check Posts," undertaken by CUTS International for LPAI.

The opening remarks were delivered by Shri Aditya Mishra, Chairman LPAI. The panellists included Dr. Prabir De Professor, RIS; Ms. Riya Sinha, Associate Fellow, CSEP; Ms. Nikita Singla, Consultant, The World Bank Group; and Mr. Arvind Akashi, Manager, Land Port Sutarkandi. Dr. Veena Vidyadharan, Fellow, CUTS presented the key findings of the study. Senior officials from LPAI, Port Managers, and representatives from think tanks attended the meeting. Ms. Rekha Raikar Kumar, Member (Finance) at LPAI, delivered the concluding remarks, emphasizing the need for inter-agency coordination, gender-inclusive and ability-enabled infrastructure, grievance redressal mechanisms at Land Ports and the need for conducting a similar gap analysis at Land Ports in neighbouring countries.





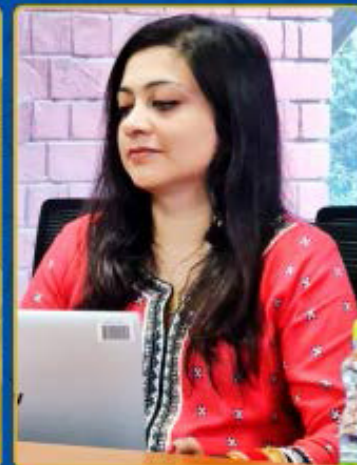
# Newsletter

22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER 2023



## CUTS Dissemination Workshop

LPAI is hosting a pivotal Dissemination Workshop on "Ease of Trading Across Borders: The Status of Land Ports in India."



**Report Release: Engendering Land Ports in India**

On January 9, 2024, LPAI released its latest research report titled “Engendering Land Ports in India: Gender Assessment and Audit of Select Land Ports” at the India Habitat Centre in New Delhi. The event was graced by Shri Dhrijesh Kumar Tiwari, Statistical Adviser from the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India, who served as the Chief Guest. In his keynote address, Shri Tiwari highlighted the critical role of gender budgeting and gender-disaggregated data analysis in making logistics processes more inclusive and responsive to diverse needs.

Shri Aditya Mishra, Chairman LPAI delivered the welcome address, outlining the Authority’s ambitious vision to reimagine Land Ports as inclusive hubs within the next three years. This vision was further explored through the findings of the report presented by Ms. Dharmistha Chauhan, Lead Author and Consultant with Mahila Housing SEWA Trust (MHT). Ms. Chauhan emphasized the pressing need for enhanced gender responsiveness at Land Ports and introduced a gender audit toolkit designed as a comprehensive framework to achieve gender-inclusive cross-border trade and travel.

The toolkit, applied to three selected Land Ports—Petrapole, Raxaul, and Agartala—was based on extensive field surveys. It proposed actionable measures to enhance gender responsiveness, helping LPAI advance towards its vision of creating gender-neutral spaces at these strategic points.

The Report Release was followed by a panel discussion on “Adopting a Gender Focused Approach in the Logistics Sector” that was chaired by Ms. V. Rama Mathew, Former Member (IT, Taxpayer Services & Technology) at the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC). Panellists included Sh. Sudhendu Jyoti Sinha, Adviser (Infrastructure Connectivity & E-Mobility / Bihar/ Manipur), NITI Aayog, Ms. Mikiko Tanaka, Director and Head of ESCAP Subregional Office, South and South-West Asia, Ms. Kanta Singh, Deputy Country Representative, UN Women India, Dr. Smita Singh, Founder & President, URJA - Uniform Rights and Justice Assured and Ms. Anita Juneja Girdhar, Member, Federation of Freight Forwarders’ Associations in India (FFFAI). The discussion centred on strategies to promote gender inclusivity in Land Ports, engaging stakeholders in a dialogue on practical and policy-driven improvements.

The event concluded with remarks from Shri Shyamal Misra, Additional Secretary (WS and Foreigners) at the Ministry of Home Affairs, who underscored the Ministry’s initiatives to ensure a safe, secure, and harmonious environment for women across India. Shri Misra lauded LPAI for its proactive efforts in mainstreaming gender considerations into its operations and governance.

Dr. Rekha Raikar Kumar, Member (Finance), LPAI, delivered the vote of thanks, wrapping up a landmark event that not only shed light on the current status of gender inclusivity at Indian Land Ports but also charted a course for significant future improvements.



# News letter

09th JANUARY 2024



## Report Release

Engendering Land Ports Conference in India, optimizing border trade and connectivity.



## III. Training & Capacity Building

### Workshop on iGOTKarmayogi Platform

Recently, LPAI has integrated with the iGOTKarmayogi platform, facilitated by Karmayogi Bharat. This platform is tailored to cater to the developmental needs of government employees, offering an extensive array of over 900 courses and content aimed at augmenting their skills and knowledge base. Moreover, it encompasses several features such as the Learning Hub, Discussion Hub, Network Hub, Competency Hub, Career Hub, and Event Hub, enriching the learning experience and fostering professional growth.

On November 22, 2023, LPAI conducted an onboarding workshop for its employees and staff at its Headquarters to familiarize them with the manifold learning opportunities offered by the iGOTKarmayogi platform, notably granting access to an expansive catalogue of over 800 online programs. This integration aligns with LPAI's commitment to cultivate a culture of continuous learning and skill development within its workforce.



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22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER 2023

**LPAI is on the KARMAYOGI Platform by Karmayogi Bharat!**  
Our team underwent an onboarding workshop at our HQ.  
This step grants access to 800+ online programs, enabling continuous learning and skill enhancement.



## Capacity Building Workshop on “Gender Mainstreaming at India’s Land Ports”

A two-day capacity-building workshop on gender mainstreaming at India’s land ports was organized by LPAI in collaboration with the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, (ICRIER) at New Delhi on 18-19th December 2023.

The workshop aimed to create awareness about the importance of integrating gender considerations into processes and behaviours, fostering an environment that supports women at land ports. It brought together over thirty participants from various agencies, including LPAI, Bureau of Immigration, Customs, Border Security Force (BSF), Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and Regional Plant Quarantine stations.

The workshop deliberations were structured around the following topics:

- Importance of Gender Mainstreaming in Trade Facilitation
- Entry Points for Gender Lens Assessment of Land Ports in India
- Information and Port Amenities
- Safety Set-up
- Cargo Processing - Mechanisation & Digitisation
- Importance of a Gender Inclusive Workforce
- Perspectives from Sea Ports
- Gender Mainstreaming through Financial Tools

The summary report of the workshop is available online at <https://lpai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2024-04/LPAI-ICRIER%20capacity%20building%20workshop%20report.pdf>.



# News letter

18-19<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2024



**Capacity Building Workshop** on 'Gender Mainstreaming at Land Ports' organized by LPAI in collaboration with @ICRIER.





## Training Workshop on Visual Storytelling for Effective Communication

On January 18, 2024, LPAI organized a training on 'Visual Storytelling for Effective Communication' at its HQ. The training conducted by "We Photo" emphasized the crucial role of visual storytelling in the digital era. Participants delved into the fundamentals of visual communication, exploring the impact of photos and videos in conveying organizational missions. The workshop included an analysis of iconic photo stories, a hands-on activity crafting visual narratives, and insights into basic photography principles and mobile device usage. By the end, participants gained skills to enhance organizational communication strategies

through impactful visual storytelling, empowering them to effectively engage diverse stakeholders.

The two-hour workshop not only equipped participants with the ability to create compelling visual narratives but also aimed to raise awareness and garner support for their respective initiatives. Attendees left with refined skills to communicate organizational goals in a visually compelling manner, fostering increased engagement, awareness, and support. The "We Photo" training workshop served as a vital platform for individuals to strengthen their advocacy efforts and enhance their organization's communication strategy through strategic visual storytelling.

**News letter**  
19<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2024

**WE PHOTO - TRAINING**  
We Photos' workshop at LPAI HQ unleashed the power of visual storytelling for impactful communication. Head office & Land Port staff learned how photos, videos, & data can engage, raise awareness, & drive change!

## Equity and Respect: A Training Program on POSH

On 5th January, LPAI conducted its inaugural training session for the year 2024, focusing on “Equity and Respect: A Training Program on POSH” (Prevention of Sexual Harassment). The POSH Act defines sexual harassment as any unwelcome sexual behaviour, whether verbal, non-verbal, or physical, that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work environment. The training adopted a hybrid format, with the participation of 25 employees, including land port managers, executive office assistants, data entry operators, and other staff members from both LPAI Headquarters and individual land ports.

Advocate Ankita Sharma, an advocate at the honourable Supreme Court of India, and Mitali Nikore, Economist and

founder of Nikore Associates, were the trainers for the session.

The training covered key areas, including:

- A. Current Efforts by LPAI Developing Gender-Inclusive Land Ports;
- B. POSH Act and Role of ICC (Internal Complaints Committee);
- C. Fostering Gender Inclusivity and Addressing Sexual Harassment at Land Ports

The comprehensive evaluation of the POSH training session resulted in a high rating of 4.8 out of 5, indicating the significant value derived by participants from the training. This underscores the effectiveness of the session in imparting knowledge and fostering a culture of equity, respect, and gender inclusivity within LPAI.



**POSH Training for Head Office & Land Ports Staff**  
LPAI champions a safe & respectful workplace. Member Finance Ms Rekha Raikar Kumar led POSH training. Her inspiring words empower positive change.





## Signing of MoU between LPAI and the School of Planning and Architecture (SPA)

LPAI and the School of Planning and Architecture (SPA) have recently formalized their collaboration through a memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed by Mr. A.K. Singh, Director (Operations) of LPAI, and Mr. Virendra Kumar, Registrar of SPA on January 12, 2024. This partnership aims to enhance training and research in land port development by combining the practical expertise of LPAI, a key player

in managing land ports, with the academic insights and urban planning proficiency of SPA.

The collaborative agreement focuses on strengthening capacity-building initiatives and research activities related to land port development, fostering a synergistic relationship between practical knowledge and academic expertise. Through this MoU, both organizations commit to sharing knowledge, resources, and expertise to advance the understanding and implementation of best practices in the field.

**MoU Between LPAI & SPA**

The Land Ports Authority of India (LPAI) & the School of Planning and Architecture (SPA) have joined forces to bolster training and research in land port development. The MoU was signed by Mr. A.K. Singh, Director (Operations), LPAI, & Mr. Virendra Kumar, Registrar, SPA.

## Signing of MoU between LPAI and the National Safety Council of India

In a significant move towards strengthening India's land ports, LPAI and the National Safety Council of India (NSC) joined hands by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on January 31, 2024. This collaboration aims to usher

in productive strides through training and technological synergies, promising a seamless and secure gateway experience for the nation. The signing of the MoU underscores commitment to enhancing operational efficiency, safety, and security at land ports, reflecting a strategic alliance that leverages the strengths of both organizations for the benefit of India's land port infrastructure.

**News letter**  
31<sup>st</sup> JANUARY 2024

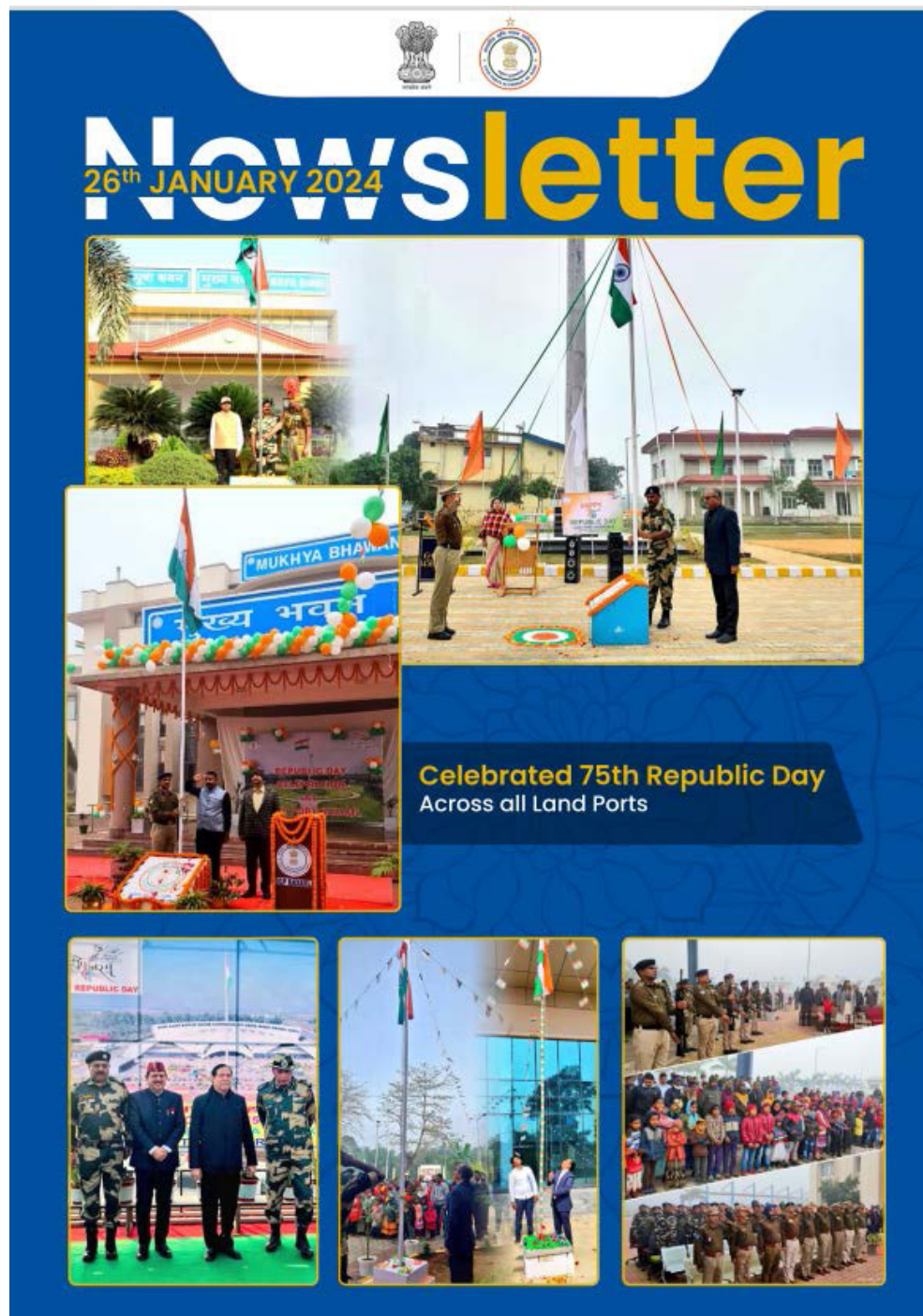
**MoU Between LPAI & NSC**  
Chairman, LPAI & Director General, NSC join hands, signing MoU to fortify India's land ports.



## IV. Republic Day Celebrations

LPAI celebrated the 75th Republic Day with great enthusiasm, patriotism, and fervour at all the Land ports across India. The festivities at all land ports included flag hoisting ceremonies, singing of the national anthem, and cultural programs that showcased the unity and cultural diversity of the nation.

Participants, including officials and stakeholders, came together to express their commitment to the principles of justice, liberty, equality, and fraternity enshrined in the Indian Constitution.





Land Ports  
Authority of India  
Systematic Seamless Secure

## Our Presence on **Social Media**



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