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Resp Sh. Bains Saheh,

Sub.: Shipment of Wheat from SMPK

world. India is one of the major producers of wheat and it produces in excess of its consumption requirement. Many countries are sourcing wheat from India and other countries after Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the subsequent Washington countries after Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the subsequent Western sanctions against Moscow curtailed their wheat supplies. It is now favorably poised to export this surplus to various countries to fulfill their respective requirements from India. There are several countries of Asia particularly in South-East Asia as well as far-East and Asia Oceania where such demand persists.

Major wheat-producing states in India are Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Gujrat, Bihar and Rajasthan. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata (SMPK) which includes Kolkata Dock System (KDS) & Haldia Dock Complex (HDC), by virtue of its geographical location, is strategically located at Eastern part of India between the origin as well as the destination for wheat, which can facilitate the endeavour to export wheat to South-East Asia as well as far-East and Asia Oceania. its location along with infrastructure and facilities makes it an ideal choice for wheat exports under economical logistics cost. The logistics ecosystem at SMPK is ideally suited and experienced in handling and movement of wheat. The port has adequate storage area and robust rail network which enables smooth handling and dispatch of the same.

In Kolkata Dock System, there are thirty transit sheds covering 1,00,000 sqmtr of covered area and there are three transit sheds covering 17,000 sq.m. of covered shed at Haldia Dock Complex, which are available for storage of wheat and more hardstand can also be allotted to the interested agencies for development of covered storage for storage of wheat. SMPK although having 46 multipurpose berths inside the impounded dock, 22 berths are generally used for handling clean cargo including food grains.

SMPK, being a tidal Port, has variable draft which varies from day to day and tide to tide. However, Panamax vessels can load / carry around 32,000 to 35,000 MT while Supramax vessels can load / carry around 25,000 to 28,000 MT of cargo in terms of the prevalent draft inside the Impounded Dock. Similarly, SMPK is also facilitating the trade for handling of fully laden ship by deploying two Floating Cranes with associated facilities. These two Floating Cranes are backed by a fleet of barges to facilitate Anchorage operation. Similarly, for facilitating aggregation / evacuation of cargo, SMPK is having several Railway Sidings inside the Port which can facilitate wheat rakes in a seamless and efficient manner. SMPK has steady shipping connections with east, Far East & Bangladesh & regular shipments of cargo are made

अपर संचालक

SMPK has always extended several benefits, remissions and facilities to support the Dry Bulk Cargo movement and necessary convenience to the trade which significantly reduced the overall logistics cost.

In view of the above, it is proposed that wheat may be shipped through Kolkata Dock System (KDS) or Haldia Dock Complex (HDC) and for which SMPK assures to extend all possible assistance including suitable rebate on cost of port charges for export of wheat.

With orgals

(Vinit Kumar) Chairman

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