

VISAKHAPATNAM PORT TRUST
TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

No. ITRA/SHP/FMKT

Dt.21.12.2020

TRADE CIRCULAR No.1333

Sub: *Request of Government of Iran for availing of 12 specific exemptions announced for trading at Shahid Beheshti Port- Reg.*

Ref: *Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways Lr No:PD-24015/92/2015-PD.IV(e-316229), Dt:09-12-2020.*

Chabahar Port is a seaport in Chabahar located in south-eastern Iran, on the Gulf of Oman. It serves as Iran's only oceanic port, and consists of two separate ports named *Shahid Kalantari* and *Shahid Beheshti*.

India and Iran first agreed to plans to further develop *Shahid Beheshti* port in 2003, but did not do so on account of sanctions against Iran. In May 2016, India and Iran signed a bilateral agreement in which India would refurbish one of the berths at *Shahid Beheshti* port, and reconstruct a 600 meter long container handling facility at the port. The port is partly intended to provide an alternative for trade between India and Afghanistan as it is 800 kilometres closer to the border of Afghanistan than Pakistan's Karachi port. In October 2017, India's first shipment of wheat to Afghanistan was sent through the Chabahar Port. In December 2018, India took over the port's operations.

Now, with a view to establish more suitable port infrastructure and for providing special incentive and encouraging business to utilise this port for transshipment of cargo, Ministry of Port, Shipping & Waterways have requested Major Ports to utilise the following 12 specific exemption scheme announced by Govt. of Iran for encouraging trade relations with the Major Ports and the **Chabahar Port** :

- 1) Three-month exemption in warehousing of mineral and
- 2) Three-month exemption in construction of goods for all customs procedures.
- 3) 50% discount on Terminal Handling Charges (THC) in foreign transit containers in Shahid Beheshti Port.
- 4) 87% discount on Terminal Handling Charges (THC) in foreign transit containers.
- 5) 75% discount on the Terminal Handling Charges (THC) for full containers in tranship.
- 6) 46% Discount on the Terminal Handling Charges (THC) for empty container in tranship.
- 7) 87% discount on warehousing of transshipping.
- 8) 100% exemption on Terminal Handling Charges (THC) for empty containers entering Shahid Beheshti Port only for stuffing and sea transportation.
- 9) Three-month exemption in warehousing of empty container entering port for loading and unloading cargo.
- 10) 30% discount on container loading and unloading (THC) costs compared to other southern ports of the country.
- 11) 25% discount on THC of different containers in export and re-export as well as returned exported cargo.
- 12) 80% discount on warehouse in export re-export and returned cargoes.

(Cont.Pg.2)

In light of the above, the concerned stakeholders and Terminal operators are requested to avail of the exemptions announced by the Govt. of Iran so as to route admissible cargo through VPT.


TRAFFIC MANAGER

Notifying Authority:

Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways Lr No:PD-24015/92/2015-PD.IV(e-316229), Dt:09-12-2020 / Approval of Chairman/VPT vide Lr No: ITRA/SHP/FMKT, Dt: 14.12.2020

Copy to: The President, Visakhapatnam Stevedores Association / Visakhapatnam Steamship Association / Visakhapatnam C&F Agents Association / Visakha Container Liner Association, for information please.

Copy to all BOT/PPP Operators, for information and necessary action please.

.....
Copy to: Sr. P.S. to Chairman, for favour of information of Chairman.

Copy to: PA to TM for information of Traffic Manager.

Copy to FA&CAO, for information please.

Copy to C.M.E/ CE / Deputy Conservator / for information please

Copy to: Joint Director, for information with a request to upload the Circular in VPT Website

Copy to: Business Development Officers for information and follow-up action with the Trade and concerned BOT/PPP Terminals.

