

(Published in Part - III Section 4 of the Gazette of India, Extraordinary)

TARIFF AUTHORITY FOR MAJOR PORTS

G No.12

New Delhi

03rd Feb 2005

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred by Section 48 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 (38 of 1963), the Tariff Authority for Major Ports hereby extends the validity of the interim tariff arrangement approved earlier vide Order number TAMP/33/2004–VSL dated 30 September 2004 for operation of Vizag Seaport Limited in the Visakhapatnam Port as in the Order appended hereto.

(A.L. Bongirwar)
Chairman

Tariff Authority for Major Ports
Case No. TAMP/33/2004 - VSL

O R D E R

(Passed on this 20th day of January 2005)

This Authority had passed an Order on 8 July 2004 approving interim tariff arrangement for operation of Vizag Seaport Limited (VSL) in the Visakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) for a period of three months subject to the VSL filing its proposal for fixation of final rates by 26 July 2004. This Order was notified in the Gazette of India on 16 July 2004 vide Gazette No.123/2004.

2. In compliance of our Order, the VSL had filed its final proposal for fixation of final rates for EQ-8 and EQ-9 berths on 26 July 2004, which was taken up in the usual consultation process followed.

3. Since the proposal of the VSL was in the processing stage, the validity of the interim tariff arrangement approved earlier was extended for a further period of three months or till notification of final rates, whichever is earlier. An Order in this regard was notified in the Gazette of India on 13 October 2004 vide the Gazette No. 171.

4.1. Based on a preliminary scrutiny of the proposal, the VSL was requested to furnish additional information / clarification on various points. The VPT was also requested to clarify a few points on this proposal.

4.2. The VSL had responded to our queries furnishing the requisite information. We had not received any response from the VPT despite a reminder.

5.1. A joint hearing in this case was held on 6 December 2004 at the VPT premises. At the joint hearing, the VPT, the VSL and the concerned users made their submissions.

5.2. It was decided at the joint hearing to accede to the request of the users for some more time to discuss the proposal with the VSL and furnish their comments. The VPT also wanted time to discuss the case with VSL before furnishing its comments to the Authority. In this regard, the VPT was advised to hold a meeting with VSL and all users and to forward a detailed report within four weeks. We have, however, not received any response from the VPT so far, despite a reminder.

6. The interim tariff arrangement approved by the Authority earlier and subsequently extended in October 2004 is valid only till 7 January 2005. This case could not be closed for final order since further actions with reference to the decisions taken at the joint hearing is pending on the part of the VPT and users. In view of this position, this Authority extends the validity of the interim tariff arrangement approved earlier till 31 March 2005 or till notification of final rates, whichever is earlier.

(A.L. Bongirwar)
Chairman