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KARNATAKA MARITIME BOARD



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KMB ಸುದ್ದಿ
News

Budget Proposals were placed for the development of Sagarmala projects

During the Pre-Budget meeting, Jayaram Raipura, CEO, KMB presented the budget requirements for the fiscal year 2025-26 to Hon. Minister Mankal S. Vaidya.

K.M.B News Bengaluru: A pre-budget meeting for the financial year 2025-26, focusing on the Infrastructure Development, Ports, and Inland Water Transport Department, was held at Vikasa Soudha in Bengaluru. The meeting was chaired by Shri Mankal S. Vaidya, the Honorable Minister of Fisheries, Ports, and Inland Water Transport for the Government of Karnataka.

During the meeting, Shri Jayaram Raipura, the Chief Executive Officer of the Karnataka Maritime Board, emphasized that the state government is keen on accelerating the development of the Sagarmala projects. These projects are a flagship initiative of both the central and state governments, aiming to enhance port infrastructure, promote coastal shipping, and boost the maritime sector's growth. The government's focus on these projects highlights its commitment to improving maritime connectivity and contributing to the overall economic development of the state.

Under the Sagarmala scheme, 26 projects have been approved with a total allocation of ₹1,017 crore, and work is progressing at various stages. For the fiscal year 2025-26, the central government's contribution is ₹127.55 crore, while the state's share amounts to approximately ₹178 crore. However, acknowledging the need for additional financial support, Shri Jayaram Raipura, CEO of KMB, has formally requested Hon. Minister Mankal S. Vaidya for extra funds to expedite



Eco-Friendly Developments

Plans are being developed to create eco-friendly infrastructure along Rabindranath Tagore Beach in Karwar and Maravanthe Beach, as part of efforts to improve basic amenities along the state's coastline. These projects will be carried out with the support of the Sagarmala Development Corporation and the New Mangalore Port Authority. A proposal has been submitted to seek state government approval for these environmentally sustainable initiatives.

the implementation and completion of these projects.

Under the Sagarmala scheme, the construction of a 350-meter-long coastal berth at Old Mangalore Port, with an estimated cost of ₹65 crore, is currently in progress. Till date, a financial progress of ₹54.96 crore has been achieved, and the project is approaching completion.

The Central Government is preparing to launch the

**Karnataka
Maritime Board**

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Sagarmala 2.0 initiative, which aims to further enhance and strengthen maritime infrastructure across the country. During discussions, Shri Jayaram Raipura, CEO of KMB, informed Shri Mankal Vaidya, the Hon'ble Minister of Fisheries, Ports, & Inland Water Transport, Government of Karnataka, about the new initiative. The Hon'ble Ministers expressed their full support for the initiative and assured that the Government of Karnataka would actively participate in this new phase of Sagarmala.

Hon. Minister Mankal S. Vaidya also instructed officials to begin the Sagarmala project using the

state's allocated funding. Furthermore, he promised to advocate for additional funds with Hon. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to ensure their timely release and the successful continuation of the project.

The meeting was attended by Director, Ports & Member (Maritime & IWT Operations), Captain K.C. Swamy, and Executive Engineer, Headquarters, KMB Shri T.S Rathod, along with other officers.

Coastal erosion incidents occur annually along the coastline during the monsoon season. A request has been made to the minister to allocate funds in the upcoming budget to address and resolve this issue.

The 3rd SMWTC Committee Meeting under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, State Govt

K.M.B News Bengaluru: The 3rd meeting of the Karnataka State Maritime and Waterways Transport Committee (SMWTC), chaired by the Smt. Shalini Rajaneesh IAS, Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka.

The CEO, KMB (Member Convenor), welcomed the attendees, including Dr. Venkata Ramana Akkaraju, Chairman, NMPA; Smt. Salma K. Fahim, IAS, In-Charge Secretary, IDP & IWT Department; and heads of PWD, Department of Mines and Geology, Forest Department, and Karnataka Coastal Zone Management Authority and other senior officials.

The third SMWTC meeting covered several important topics, including the handling of iron ore at KMB ports and it was decided to submit a cabinet note within two weeks. Discussions also focused on the Bangalore-Mangalore Infrastructure Corridor and the status of Sagarmala Projects in the state, emphasizing the state share fund requirements for implementing these projects in the 2025-26 financial year. The CEO of KMB requested the Chief Secretary's support for the re-sanctioning of Sagarmala funds, and the Chief Secretary assured assistance. The progress of the 'Development of a Greenfield Deepwater

Port at Keni, Karnataka' project was also reviewed. Additionally, the



development of water aerodromes in the state was discussed, with a decision made to hold a stakeholder meeting on the matter. Other important issues were also addressed, and the CEO of KMB provided updates on the significant progress made by the organization.

Notably, Karnataka is the first state to draft and submit a State Maritime Waterways Master Plan to the Central Government. CEO, KMB, also announced the finalization of the Karnataka Maritime Policy 2024. The Chief Secretary commended these achievements and recommended publicizing the Policy Document. Furthermore, many other activities and initiatives of the board were discussed and fruitful collaborations were requested from all the member departments and other stakeholders.

Pending Proposal: Meeting of KMB CEO with Secretary

Service superiority, promotion proposal for officers-staff



KMB News, Bengaluru: Shri Jayaram Raipura, CEO, KMB, has formally requested the lifting of the ban on iron ore exports through minor ports in Karnataka. This request was directed to the Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure Development, Ports and Inland Water Transport, as well as the Secretary of the Department of Mines and Geology. The concerned officials have responded favourably to the proposal.

A meeting was held at Vikasa Soudha in the office of the Department of Infrastructure Development, Ports, and Inland Water Transport, where discussions took place regarding the pending proposals. Key topics included the seniority and promotion of officers and staff within the Ports and Inland Water Transport Department.

During the meeting, the CEO of KMB presented proposals for six Sagarmala projects that require approval from the state cabinet. He also stressed the importance of releasing the state's share of funding for the Sagarmala scheme for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, which was met with a positive response from

the attendees. Additionally, discussions were held on expanding the limits of Bhatkal port and revising port fees. The CEO, KMB, emphasized the need for periodic reviews and adjustments to the charges imposed by port authorities for various services provided to ships, cargo, and passengers. This initiative aims to streamline operations and improve service quality across Karnataka's ports.

During the meeting, discussions took place regarding the seniority, promotions, and other service-related matters of officials and staff from the Infrastructure Development, Ports, and Inland Water Transport Department. The Karnataka Maritime Board responded positively, expressing a willingness to address these issues in a constructive manner.

Key officials present at the meeting included Captain C. Swamy, Director of Ports and Member (Maritime and Inland Water Transport Operations), and T.S. Rathod, Executive Engineer, Headquarters, KMB. Several staff members from the department were also in attendance, contributing to a thorough discussion of all relevant service matters.



State Govt. Emphasizes Greenfield Port

Details of Contract Awarded for Keni Port Construction – KMB CEO's Statement

▲ KMB News, Karwar: Shri Jayaram Raipura, CEO of KMB, stated that the planned Keni Port in Ankola will be developed entirely on the sea, with only 150 acres of land required for the connectivity corridor.

Karnataka Maritime Board CEO, Shri Jayaram Raipura, addressing a press conference, announced that JSW has been granted a 30-year lease for the construction Government of Karnataka's Keni Port. After this period, the port will be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Karnataka Maritime Board and remain under state government control. He also emphasized that the company cannot begin construction until all required approvals are obtained.

The Keni Port project will include a 3.5 km breakwater in the sea and the construction of 12-13 berths. Around 150 hectares of land will be reclaimed from the sea, and approximately 1 km of coastline will be incorporated into the port's jurisdiction. A 90-meter-wide corridor road will connect the port to the highway. Within the 150-acre identified alignment area (with minimal demolition required), there are 75 structures, including houses and huts, for which proper compensation will be provided as per the government norms.



Expansion of Karwar Port

The Karwar Commercial Port has received approval for its long-awaited expansion, with work set to begin within the next month. The breakwater will be constructed starting from the flagpole area, as confirmed by Jayaram Raipura, CEO of the Karnataka Maritime Board. In terms of connectivity, challenges have emerged in laying a railway line from the port to Shirwad railway station. To address this, a new railway station will be built at Amadalli on land owned by the Konkan Railway Corporation, with an estimated cost of ₹50 crore. Additionally, residents of the Baithkol Port area will be relocated to Chittakul as part of a planned resettlement effort to ensure proper rehabilitation. These initiatives are aimed at strengthening Karwar's role as a key maritime hub in Karnataka.

Focus on Tourism at Karnataka Ports

The Karnataka Maritime Board has devised a strategy to boost tourism at the state's ports. To maintain uninterrupted maritime operations, a continuous dredging contract will be awarded to prevent silt accumulation over the next five years. This initiative aims to sustain optimal navigational depth at key ports, laying the groundwork for increased tourism activities. Additionally, studies are being conducted to explore backwater tourism opportunities and the development of a water aerodrome near Ganesh Gudi. These projects are expected to enhance tourism, further transforming Karnataka's coastal regions into vibrant tourist destinations.

Meeting Held regarding Keni Greenfield Port Development

KMB News, Karwar: Project Sensitization Meeting on Greenfield Port Development at Keni
A project sensitization meeting was conducted at the Uttara Kannada District Commissioner's office to discuss the development of an all-weather deep-water Greenfield port at Keni, to be undertaken under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model.

The meeting was chaired by District Commissioner of Uttara Kannada District, Smt. Lakshmi Priya and was attended by dignitaries and representatives from key departments, including Fisheries, Forest, Police, and Mines & Geology.

Shri. Jayaram Raipura, Chief Executive Officer of the Karnataka Maritime Board (KMB), addressed the gathering, stressing the importance of creating more trade and investment opportunities along the state's coastline through the implementation of upcoming projects. He shared detailed insights into the Keni Port Project and underscored the crucial role of ports in driving Karnataka's economic growth.

He also presented a comparative study that



analysed the capacity gaps between Karnataka's ports and those of other states, as well as major ports across India. This study was designed to help stakeholders recognize the importance of infrastructure expansion and strategic planning in port development.

To expedite progress on the Keni Port Project, CEO of KMB, Shri Jayaram Raipura, recommended that the District Commissioner arrange a meeting with the Fisheries Department and local fishing communities for further discussions and to secure the necessary cooperation.

The meeting was attended by the District Superintendent of Police, Karwar, along with senior officials from various relevant departments.



The 'Invest Karnataka 2025' Global Investors Meet was inaugurated at Palace Grounds, Bengaluru. As part of the three-day event, the Karnataka Maritime Board (KMB) set up an exhibition stall to highlight its flagship projects. The stall was inaugurated by Shri. Jayaram Raipura, CEO KMB along with the Chief Engineer and Executive Engineers. It attracted many business leaders and investors, contributing significantly to the success of Invest Karnataka 2025.



Karnataka Maritime Board Participates in Coastal Tourism Workshop

✎ K.M.B News, Mangaluru:

The Tourism Department of the Karnataka Government organized a Coastal Tourism Workshop at Ocean Pearl, Mangalore, to deliberate upon the state's tourism policy and boost coastal tourism initiatives. The CEO of the Karnataka Maritime Board (KMB) was invited to present key KMB projects that align with the coastal tourism vision.

During the session, the CEO highlighted various projects under KMB, including Mangalore International Cruise and Tourism



Port, Mangalore Water Metro, Port Modernization and two more Coastal Berths being built in Old Mangalore port limits. These initiatives aim to create employment, enhance local socio-economic condition of the region,

and foster sustainable tourism growth. The projects will also generate significant revenue for the Government of Karnataka while reinforcing the state's maritime and tourism objectives.

KMB remains committed to integrating maritime infrastructure with tourism development, ensuring Karnataka's coastal belt becomes a prime attraction. The workshop provided a platform for stakeholders to collaborate and drive forward the state's coastal tourism agenda in alignment with Karnataka's maritime vision.

KMB CEO Engages with CREDAI on Coastal Development and Water Metro Project

✎ K.M.B News, Mangaluru: The CEO of the Karnataka Maritime Board (KMB) was invited for a strategic meeting with the Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (CREDAI) to discuss key maritime projects in Dakshina Kannada, including the transformative Mangalore Water Metro (MWM) initiative.

During the discussion, the CEO, KMB presented the salient features of various projects aimed at socio-economic upliftment and improving local livelihoods. The focus was on enhancing coastal infrastructure, boosting connectivity, and integrating sustainable maritime transport solutions.

A key highlight of the meeting was the Mangalore Water Metro



(MWM) Project, under which 19 strategic locations have been identified for implementing connectivity nodes. Three major ferry service lines are set to operate within the project area, ensuring seamless water transport. Additionally, last-mile connectivity solutions were discussed, with provisions for integrating local bus services for enhancing accessibility.

For advancing the project, the tenders for Transaction Advisor (TA) and Techno-Economic Feasibility Report (TEFR) will be invited shortly. The meeting highlighted the collaborative efforts

between KMB and CREDAI in fostering maritime-led urban development, reinforcing KMB's vision for an efficient, sustainable, and economically vibrant coastal transport ecosystem.

International Cruise Port to be established in Mangalore

India's First International Cruise Port Gets Green Signal from Karnataka Government

KMB Special Report: The Karnataka government is preparing to position the state as a major hub for international cruise tourism. Jayaram Raipura, CEO of the Karnataka Maritime Board, envisions the establishment of the country's first international cruise port in Mangalore, located along the state's coastal region.

Karnataka's coastline is set to become a prime destination for port tourism in the coming years. Similar to global cruise hubs, the state's coast is expected to emerge as a key centre for luxury cruise tourism. To realize this vision, the Karnataka Maritime Board has launched several new projects under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model, which are currently being implemented at various stages.

"The project Mangalore International Cruise Terminal and Tourism Port is estimated to cost around ₹2,500-3,000 crore. The PPP approval process for this project is underway, and the proposal will be sent for final approval to the committee led by the Chief Secretary. All processes are expected to be completed within two to three months, after which a global tender will be invited."



Jayaram Raipura
Chief Executive Officer, KMB



Mangalore Set to Become a Central Hub for International Cruise Ships!

Mangalore is poised to become a key hub for international cruise ships. To establish the city as a prominent destination for global cruise tourism, the State Maritime Board is planning the construction of an International Cruise Port at Someshwara. This will be the first international cruise port of its kind in the country, with an estimated project cost of ₹2,500-3,000 crore.



Rising Demand for Cruise Tourism

In India, while there are several cruise berths, including those in Goa, there is no dedicated port designed specifically to accommodate international cruise ships. To fill this gap, the construction of an International Cruise and Tourism Port in Mangalore has been initiated. India's coastal destinations—such as Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Kerala, Goa, and Mumbai—are witnessing an increasing influx of foreign luxury cruise ships. However, the country currently lacks fully equipped, dedicated cruise ports to accommodate these vessels. Recognizing Mangalore as a key hub for cruise tourism, preparations are now underway to establish a world-class cruise port in the city.

What Makes the International Cruise Port Unique?

The proposed world-class cruise and tourism port in Mangalore is set to become the first fully-equipped, large-scale cruise port in the country. Shri Jayaram Raipura, CEO, KMB, highlighted that the port will feature a total of seven berths, with three dedicated specifically to cruise ships. The remaining four berths will be developed as clean cargo berths, enhancing the port's versatility and operational efficiency. This development aims to establish Mangalore as a premier cruise destination on the global map.

Anticipating a Boost in Tourism

The Karnataka government is dedicated to developing Mangalore as a major cruise tourism hub in the state. In support of this initiative, the Central Government is also providing assistance under the Sagarmala scheme. Residents from regions such as Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu are increasingly interested in cruise tourism, with a growing expenditure on such experiences. Furthermore, Mangalore is seeing a significant influx of international cruise ships, further establishing it as a key destination for cruise tourism.