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ಚೇಂಬರ್ ಬಿಲ್ಡಿಂಗ್, ಬಂದರು, ಪಿ.ಬಿ. ನಂ. 116, ಮಂಗಳೂರು, ಭಾರತ - 575 001.

KANARA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

Chamber Building, Bunder, P.B. No.: 116, Mangaluru, India - 575 001.

Telephone : (0824) 2420128, 4260128 (O) & +91 94835 10669 (M)

E-mail : office@kanarachamber.com

Website : www.kanarachamber.com

CIN : U91990KA1940PLC001135

Ref. No: 2025-26/0157

13th March, 2026

Shri Sushil Kumar Singh
Chairman,
New Mangalore Port Authority,
Panambur,
Mangaluru - 575010.

Respected Sir,

Sub: Request for implementation of relief measures under the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Major Ports to mitigate the impact of geopolitical disruptions in the Middle East.

Ref: Meeting convened by the NMPA, Port on 09.03.2026.

Greetings from Kanara Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI), Mangaluru.

With reference to the subject cited above, we would like to place on record our sincere appreciation to the Government of India and the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways for proactively supporting the EXIM trade by introducing the **Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Major Ports to mitigate the impact of geopolitical disruptions in the Middle East**. This timely initiative will certainly provide much-needed relief to the trade and logistics ecosystem during the present challenging circumstances.

As you are aware, the **Strait of Hormuz** plays a critical role in global maritime trade and has a direct bearing on India's EXIM supply chain. A substantial volume of crude oil, LPG, LNG, containers, and other cargo transits through this strategic route. Owing to the ongoing geopolitical tensions and war-related developments in the region, the global shipping network and maritime logistics have been severely disrupted. Consequently, importers and exporters are facing significant operational and financial challenges, including vessel delays, cargo congestion, schedule disruptions, and increased logistics costs.

Under normal circumstances, the current infrastructure and connectivity in the region—particularly through **NH-66 and NH-75 corridors**—provide strong potential for robust cargo evacuation and enhanced containerized trade through the Port. However, due to the prevailing geopolitical disturbances, the supply chain has been adversely affected, and trade operations are experiencing substantial setbacks. At present, **106 TEUs of container cargo are held up at NMPA**, causing operational and financial stress to the concerned stakeholders.

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In this regard, and with reference to the **SOP issued by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways dated 6th March 2026, particularly Para 6**, which empowers Major Ports to extend suitable relief measures to mitigate such disruptions, we humbly request your good office to kindly consider extending appropriate concessions and relief measures to the trade on a **case-to-case basis**, depending on the prevailing operational circumstances at the Port.

Such relief measures may include, inter alia:

- Concession or relaxation in **Vessel Related Charges (VRC)**.
- **Free ground rent till the situation normalizes.**
- Earmark space/yard/paved area for stacking containers meant for Exports or received back for **Back To Town on free terms.**
- Earmark a designated covered area shed for stacking food grade cargo which require destuffing, stuffing prior to **Back To Town**. This shed should be water washed and ventilated to make it worthy for stacking food grade cargo on free terms basis.
- Also, to facilitate transshipment boxes and breakbulk consignment which the MLOs/ Agents are contemplating to divert to New Mangalore Port bound for **Middle East area.**

These measures would greatly mitigate the hardship faced by the EXIM community which would enable to sustaining their operations during this difficult period and would significantly contribute towards maintaining the competitiveness and resilience of trade through **New Mangalore Port Authority**.

We therefore request your kind office to sympathetically consider this representation and extend the necessary support to the trade fraternity during this challenging time.

We shall remain grateful for your continued support.

Thanking you.

Yours sincerely,

For **KANARA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY**

P. B. AHMED MUDASSAR

DIN 06738742

DIRECTOR / PRESIDENT

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Cc:

- 1) Smt. S. Shanthi
Dy. Chairperson
New Mangalore Port Authority,
Panambur,
Mangaluru - 575 010.
- 2) Shri K. Rajendra Kumar
Traffic Manager
New Mangalore Port Authority,
Panambur,
Mangaluru - 575 010.

Affiliated to:

Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry, New Delhi. | Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce & Industry, Bengaluru.

Confederation of Indian Industry (Southern Region), Bengaluru/Chennai. | Bangalore Chamber of Industry & Commerce, Bengaluru. | Indian Merchants' Chamber, Mumbai.

For Mediation, Arbitration, Conciliation contact:



KCCI
ADR CENTRE
In Pursuit of Resolution

Telephone: (0824) 2420128, 2441859 / 9483510669.

Email: adr@kanarachamber.com.

Website: www.adr.kanarachamber.com