All indicators of import-export trade at Mongla port upward

Md Hasanur Rahman Tanzir – Mongla sea port is moving forward by exploiting all the possibilities in the global economic turmoil. Ship arrivals, cargo handling, revenue income are all indicators of this sea port. New industrial factories have been built around Bangladesh's second sea port, and business has expanded. As a result, this port is playing a major role in the overall economic development of the South Western region and the country along with eliminating unemployment through job creation.

According to the data of the Port Authority, Mongla Port has achieved a lot in the financial year 2022-23 and 2023-24. One of them is – Arrival of ships: 827 ships arrived in the fiscal year 2022-23, while 846 ships arrived in the fiscal year 2023-24, that is, a total increase of 19 ships this year compared to last year. In the financial year 2023-24 the target of ship arrival was 840 i.e. 06 ships have arrived more than the target. Car import: Total car import in 2022-2023 fiscal year was 13576 while in 2023-2024 fiscal year 15340 cars were imported i.e. 1764 more cars were imported in this year. In the last 10 years, the number of cars imported through this port is 10785979 (one crore seven lakh eighty five thousand nine hundred and eighty nine). Cargo Handling: 99.05 lakh metric tonnes of cargo was handled in FY 2022-23. On the other hand, 108.68 lakh metric tons of cargo has been handled in the financial year 2023-24. Container Handling: A total of 26583 TEU containers were handled during FY 2022-23. On the other hand, a total of 31044 TEU containers have been handled in the financial year 2023-24. Revenue Earnings: A total revenue of Rs 302 crore was collected in FY 2022-23. On the other hand, a total revenue of Tk 319 crore has been collected in the financial year 2023-24. The revenue earned in the current financial year has increased by 28.55% as compared to the previous financial year.

Rear Admiral Shaheen Rahman, Chairman of Mongla Port Authority

said, “Mongla Port has increased in dynamism under the efficient leadership of the Honorable Prime Minister and overall supervision of the Ministry of Shipping. 846 foreign commercial ships arrived through this port in the financial year 2023-24. Imports of reconditioned cars were 15,340 units. During this time cargo handling also increased container handling. Net profit at the port increased by 28.55% as all indicators remained positive.

Also due to the Padma bridge, the import-export trade of Mongla port, the second largest sea port of the country, has started. Port users are saving time and money in bringing goods from Dhaka and its neighboring districts within three and a half to four hours from this port. Due to Padma Bridge being the nearest port to the capital, various products of the garment industry are also going to different European countries through Mongla. With the establishment of a railway connection with Mongla port, a new horizon is going to begin in the import and export of goods. Due to fast and safe handling of ships at Mongla Port, foreign businessmen have also become interested in using this port, as a result of which the import and export of goods is increasing through this port. Mongla port is also fully prepared for safe and smooth import-export of goods.

Currently 5 projects are underway at Mongla port. When these projects are completed, the opportunity to use this dam will increase several times. If the Mangla port’s modern waste and oil removal management project is implemented, it will be possible to fulfill the international obligations of the Gojchangkh Convention, prevent the dumping of ship’s waste into the sea and rivers, protect the marine environment from pollution, and protect the Sundarbans from the pollution of sea-going ships arriving at Mongla port. Along with this, it will be possible to keep the rivers and streams around the Pashu channel and Mongla port free of pollution from the discharged oil. Implementation of Auxiliary Vessel Collection Scheme for Mongla Port will enable construction of safe channels, smooth handling of seagoing vessels and conduct of emergency rescue operations in adverse weather conditions. Dredging in the inner bar of Pashur Channel: If the project is implemented, it will create a facility for vessel handling of 10m draft up to the jetty at Mongla port. This will increase

the capacity of the port manifold.
If the Upgradation of Mongla Port project is implemented, it will be possible to handle 1.50 crore tonnes of cargo, 3.50-4.00 lakh TEU containers annually. This will create employment opportunities for shipping agents, C&F agents, stevedores and working class people associated with port operations.
Construction of 2 incomplete jetties at Mongla port (through PPP) will enable annual handling of 1 lakh TEU containers if implemented. This will create employment opportunities for shipping agents, C&F agents, stevedores and working class people associated with port operations.