

HICT emerges as a natural choice for Durgapur customers

Exim News Service
 KOLKATA, Aug. 6
THE sharp drop in imports due to the impact of Covid-19 resulted in less number of vessels, which in turn offered reduced space to exporters who were finding the situation challenging to cater to export orders. **Haldia International Container Terminal (HICT)**, under Haldia Dock Complex (SMTP), however,



proved to be a natural choice for Durgapur exporters who were looking for enhanced space from bigger size feeder vessels as well as new service linkages even post-Covid.

Durgapur, Bardhaman (West Bengal) is a location rich in minerals, metals and huge farmlands cultivating rice. It has the presence of some of the leading industrial/business corporates including public sector undertakings,

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and continues to show tremendous growth in exports and imports.

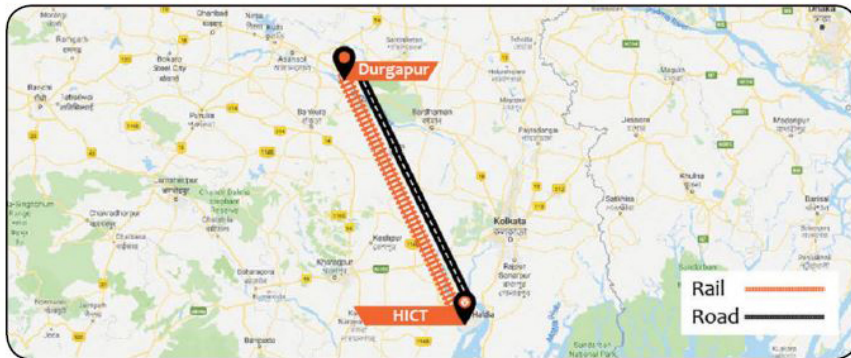
Allied ICD, Durgapur, CONCOR, shipping companies such as MSC and Goodrich, and freight forwarder Vivek Freight & Logistics came forward to commence first export containerised rail shipment movement connecting with Haldia Dock, said a release.

Route: Allied ICD, Durgapur (INDUR6)-- CONCOR Terminal, Durgapur (CTDI)--Haldia Dock Terminal (HDCG)

In the first two export rakes, Maithon Alloys, Shyam Ferro, Shyam Sel & Power Ltd, Carbon Resources and Jay Baba Bakeswar supported with their export volumes. "We encourage all the exporters based out of Durgapur/Bardhaman belt to convert road movements into seamless rail despatches," the release said.

Some of the unique advantages for customers of Durgapur/Bardhaman belt in using rail:

- ★ Less time for the laden container to connect port, i.e. just 18 to 20 hours compared to the uncertainty in transit times through road
- ★ Heavy cargo can be easily accommodated in



90-TEU rake movements without any additional cost/penalty for exceeding road weight limitations

- ★ Meeting cut-offs of the vessel operators and option of stock entry at Haldia with 20 days free time

In the recent past, HICT had the privilege of handling regular import shipments through rakes towards Allied ICD, Dur-

gapur, and now with exports through rail network (1st shipment was gated out of CONCOR terminal on July 16 and the second one on July 30, 2020), it will be a big game-changer for the ex-im trade.

"Apart from the existing excellent services of PIL, OEL, Shreyas Shipping, Far Shipping, we have new dedicated

bigger vessels service deployed under MSC to cater to increasing space requirements," the release informed.

HICT welcomes all the esteemed shipping lines, exporters and importers, NVOCCs and freight forwarders to increase their business through Haldia Dock for the overall benefit of the trade, the release added.