

MESSAGE FROM CMD

Dear SCians,

My good wishes to you and your families for a joyous Gudi Padwa and a happy New Year, wishing you peace, prosperity and good health !!

The coronavirus pandemic has placed extraordinary challenges on the mankind, in general, and the nation, in particular, at a time when the country is already grappling with the economic slowdown. The humanitarian toll of the contagion, the massive scale of the outbreak, its overwhelming speed and uncertainty has left in its wake a disorientation, a feeling of losing control, a sense of unease and fear that keeps increasing. All the more challenging for the SCI has been the necessity to continue performing given the constraints of the recently imposed lockdown.

I take this opportunity to address you all, acknowledging the challenging phase that stares in our face today, but at the same time imploring you to stand the test of time and garner all the strength and resilience to sustain ourselves through these difficult times.

The demands placed on us during these times are dynamic and manifold. The Management, foreseeing the potential impact of the outbreak on the Company, with a dedicated Team of executives with experience across various functionalities, had been evaluating the risks involved which culminated in formulation of a Business Continuity Plan. A draft in place which kept getting reworked upon, fine-tuned and dove-tailed to meet the changing requirements, enabled the Company to adhere to and comply with the instructions of the Government issued from time to time with minimum turbulence; rather, the performance went on unhindered with the support of the systems and coordination and perseverance of all involved. The latest imposition of a lockdown of 21 days, the first of its kind that the Company has had to contend with, is formidable but with the precautions taken and the continued perseverance of one and all, I am sure we would be able to overcome this challenge too.

All measures for safety and caution are being exercised on all fronts to contain and mitigate the impact of the outbreak from our end. DG guidelines issued time and again to address the evolving requirements are disseminated for the safety of our fellow seafarers and we share their concerns.

SCI has been largely able to institute a “work from home” mechanism within a limited framework of time and resources. It is for each one of us now to conform and make best use of the policy and align ourselves to the culture necessitated by the demands of time and ensure that the efforts do not go in vain. But I do know and acknowledge that SCians, known for their acumen, experience, integrity and diligence, would strive to leave no stone unturned to mitigate the current crisis.

Once again, I acknowledge and express my sincere appreciation of the agility, compassion, courage and resilience displayed by the employees in this moment of crisis and would like to share my view on overcoming this unique challenge viz. first, safety of all of us is paramount; second – business continuity is the key.

Please take care of yourselves and your loved ones. Let’s endeavor, as an SCI family, to keep calm however trying the circumstances, doing what it takes to be done one day at a time and we cross over together and emerge stronger than before.

Jai Hind !!

Best Regards,

Mrs. H. K. Joshi
Chairman & Managing Director
The Shipping Corporation of India Ltd.