



ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE TUTCORIN PORT TRUST

Dr. K. Marimuthu

Guest Lecturer , Department of History ,
Bharathidasan University , Tiruchirappalli.

ABSTRACT:

The Port of Tuticorin is important as it forms the Southernmost Port on the east coast and has the largest trade in South India. In his enumeration of ports on the east coast of India, Sosikourai (Tuticorin) is referred to an emporium at the mouth of the River Solen (Porunai) first historical reference made by Ptolemy.¹

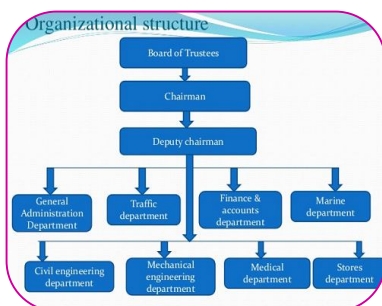
KEYWORDS – Port of Tuticorin , east coast of India , Madras Legislature.

INTRODUCTION

Tuticorin formed a part of the Pandyan Kingdom during the 7th to 9th Centuries A.D., and passed into the hands of the Cholas during the 10th to 12th Centuries. Later it became one of the chief trading centres under the Later Pandyas.²

In 1924,³ the Tuticorin Port Trust Act was passed by the Madras Legislature. In the same year, the Board of the Tuticorin Port Trust was constituted and it took over the administration of the Port. The Tuticorin Port Trust is a body corporate constituted under Chapter II, Section 3(1) of the Major Port Trust Act 1963 by the Central Government.⁴ The Board of Trustees appointed by the Ministry of Shipping, Government of India, consists of Chairman, Deputy Chairman and seventeen trustees.⁵ It functions under the administrative control of the Ministry of Shipping, Government of India. The Board of Trustees for Tuticorin Port consists of nineteen members. The ex-officio members are seven. They are Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Port, Divisional Railway Manager of Southern Railway, Madurai, Assistant Collector of Central Excise and Customs, Tuticorin, Collector of Chidambaram District, Naval Officer-in-Charge of Madras and Deputy Financial Adviser of MOST. The other twelve members are Executive Director of Southern Petro-Chemical Industries Corporation (SPIC), Tuticorin, and Chief Engineer of Tuticorin Thermal Power. Station, a representative of INSA, a representative of Tuticorin Sailing Vessel Owners' Association, a representative of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, a representative of Tuticorin Stevedores Association, four representing other interests and two representatives of labour.⁶

There are seven heads of departments in the Port. They are Secretary, Financial Adviser and Chief Accounts Officer, Deputy Conservator, Traffic Manager, Chief Engineer, Chief Mechanical Engineer and Chief Medical Officer. Secretary deals with all matters relating to the board, establishment, vigilance, security, labour, industrial relations, estate management, legal matters and coordination. Deputy Conservator's job consists of harbour maintenance and communication, regulation of navigation, pilotage, towage, dredging, marine survey, marine workshop, dry dock and movement control of sailing vessels. Chief Mechanical Engineer handles mechanical and electrical works, maintenance of cranes and other cargo handling equipment and locomotives and management of stores. The other heads of departments deal with their respective subjects.⁷



CONSTITUTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

(1) With effect from such date as may be specified by notification in the Official Gazette, the Central Government shall cause to be constituted in respect of any major port a Board of Trustees to be called the Board of Trustees of that port, which shall consist of the following Trustees, namely.

- (a) Chairman to be appointed by the Central Government;
- (b) One Deputy Chairman or more, [as the Central Government may deem fit to appoint;]⁸
- (c) Not more than nineteen persons in the case of each of the ports of Bombay, Calcutta and Madras and not more than seventeen persons in the case of any other port who shall consist of⁹
 - (i) Such number of persons, as the Central Government may, from time to time, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify, to be appointed by that Government from amongst persons who are in its opinion capable of representing any one or more of such of the following interests as may be specified in the notification, namely:-

- (1) labour employed in the port;
- (2) the Mercantile Marine Department;
- (3) the Customs Department.,
- (4) the Government of the State in which the port is situated;
- (5) the Defence Services;
- (6) the Indian Railways; and
- (7) such other interests as, in the opinion of the Central Government, ought to be represented on the Board. Provided that before appointing any person to represent the labour employed in the port, the Central Government shall obtain the opinion of the trade unions, if any, composed of persons employed in the port and registered under the Trade Unions Act, 1926 (16 of 1926), and that the number of persons so appointed shall not be less than two;¹⁰

(ii) Such number of persons, as the Central Government may, from time to time, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify, to be elected by such bodies and representing any one or more of such of the following interests as may be specified in the notification from among themselves, namely:-

- (1) ship owners;
- (2) owners of sailing vessels;
- (3) shippers; and
- (4) such other interests as, in the opinion of the Central Government, ought to be represented on the Board:

Provided that in a case where any such body is an undertaking owned or controlled by the Government, the person to be elected by such body shall be appointed by the Central Government.

(2) A Trustee appointed by the Central Government under this Act may be appointed by name or by virtue of office.

(3) Every notification issued under¹¹ [sub-clause (ii) of clause (c) of sub-section] may also specify the number of Trustees that each of the bodies referred to in that clause may elect.

(4) The election of Trustees under [sub-clause (ii) of clause (c) of sub-section (1)] shall be held within such period as may, from time to time, be specified by the Central Government.¹²

(5) The chief executive authority of every electing body shall communicate forthwith to the Central Government the result of any election held in pursuance of sub-section (4).

(6) The names of persons appointed or elected as Trustees shall be notified by the Central Government in the Official Gazette.

FIRST BOARD OF TRUSTEES

(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 3, the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, constitute in respect of any major port the first Board of Trustees thereof consisting of-

- (a) a Chairman to be appointed by the Central Government;

- (b) a Deputy Chairman, if the Central Government deems fit to appoint one; and
- (c) such number of other Trustees, [not exceeding seventeen], as that Government may deem expedient, to be appointed by that Government from amongst persons who are in its opinion capable of representing.¹³
- (i) labour employed in the port;
- (ii) Government of the State in which the port is situated;
- (iii) Government departments specified¹⁴ [in sub-clause (i) of clause (c)] of sub-section (1) of section 3; and
- (iv) such other interests as, in the opinion of the Central Government, ought to be represented on the Board.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of sub-section (3), the persons appointed as Trustees under sub-section (1) shall hold office during the pleasure of the Central Government.
- (3) On the constitution of the Board under section 3, the first Board of Trustees shall cease to exist.

BOARD TO BE BODY CORPORATE

Every Board constituted under this Act shall be a body corporate having perpetual succession and a common seal with power, subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire, hold or dispose of property and may by the name by which it is constituted, sue or be sued.

DISQUALIFICATION OF TRUSTEE

A person shall be disqualified for being chosen as a Trustee, if he-

- (a) has been convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for an offence which, in the opinion of the Central Government, involves moral turpitude; or
- (b) is an undischarged insolvent; or
- (c) holds any office of profit under the Board, provided that this disqualification shall not apply to the Chairman, Deputy Chairman or a Trustee who has been appointed to represent the labour employed in the port or appointed by virtue of office as officer or member of an association formed for the purpose of promoting the interests or welfare of any class of employees of the Board;
- (d) has, directly or indirectly, any share or interest in any work done by order of the Board, or in any contract or employment, with, by, or on behalf of the Board;

Provided that no person shall be deemed to have a share or interest in such work, contract or employment by reason only of his-¹⁵

- (i) having a share in any company or firm which may contract with or be employed by or on behalf of the Board, or
- (ii) having a share of interest in any newspaper in which any advertisement relating to the affairs of the Board may be inserted, or
- (iii) being interested in any loan of money to the Board, or
- (iv) having a share or interest in any lease, sale, exchange or purchase of immovable property or any agreement for the same, or
- (v) having a share or interest in any licence by the Board, or right by agreement or otherwise, with the Board to the sole or preferential use of any railway siding or any berth for vessels in the docks belonging to the Board, or
- (vi) having a share or interest in the occasional sale to the Board, to a value not exceeding ten thousand rupees in any one financial year, of any article in which he trades.

Term of Trustees

- (1) The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman shall hold office during the pleasure of the Central Government.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of this Act,-
- (a) every person elected or appointed by name to be a Trustee shall hold office to which he is elected or so appointed, for a term of two years commencing on the 1st day of April next following his election or

appointment, as the case may be, provided that the term of office of a member elected to represent any body of persons shall come to an end as soon as he ceases to be a member of that body;

(b) a person appointed by virtue of an office to be a Trustee shall, until the Central Government by notification in the official Gazette otherwise directs, continue to be a Trustee so long as he continues to hold that office.

Vacation of Office

(1) The Central Government shall remove a Trustee if he¹⁶

(a) becomes subject to any of the disqualification mentioned in section 6; or has, in the opinion of the Central Government, ceased to represent the interest by virtue of which he was appointed or elected; or

(b) refuses to act or becomes incapable of acting; or

(c) is, without the permission of the Board previously obtained, absent for six consecutive ordinary meetings of the Board; or

(d) is absent for the meetings of the Board for a period exceeding six consecutive months; or

(e) acts in contravention of the provisions of section 19

(2) A Trustee may resign his office by giving notice in writing to the Chairman who shall forward the same to the Central Government, and on such resignation being accepted by that Government, he shall be deemed to have vacated his office.

Eligibility of Trustee for re-appointment or re-election

Any person ceasing to be a Trustee shall, unless disqualified under section 6, be eligible for re-appointment or re-election.

Filling of Vacancies

(1) In the case of a vacancy in the office of a Trustee appointed by name or an elective Trustee caused by the expiration of the term of office of such Trustee, the appointment to fill such vacancy shall be made or an election to fill such vacancy shall be completed, as the case may be, within two months immediately preceding the date of expiration of such term.¹⁷

(2) In the case of a vacancy in the office of a Trustee appointed by the Central Government by virtue of an office, the appointment to fill such vacancy shall be made within one month of the occurrence of such vacancy.

(3) In the case of a casual vacancy in the office of a Trustee appointed by name or an elective Trustee caused by the death of such Trustee or by virtue of the provisions of section 8, such vacancy shall be filled within one month of the occurrence thereof by appointment for election, as the case may be, in the manner herein before specified:

Provided that the Trustee so appointed or elected shall retain his office so long only as the vacating Trustee shall have retained the same if such vacancy had not occurred, provided further that no such casual vacancy occurring within three months of the date of expiry of the normal term of office of the vacating Trustee shall be filled up under this sub-section.¹⁸

Saving provision for appointment of Trustee by Central Government after prescribed period

Nothing in the foregoing provisions shall prevent a person being appointed by the Central Government to fill any vacancy in the office of a Trustee appointed by the Central Government after the expiration of the period specified in section 10, if for any reason it has not been possible for the Central Government to make the appointment within the period.¹⁹

Power of Central Government to extend time for election or appoint Trustees in default of election

(1) If the Central Government is satisfied that an electing body has failed to elect a Trustee within the period specified there for in sub-section (4) of section 3 or section 10 for reasons beyond its control, the Central

Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, direct that the election shall be held on or before such date as may be specified in the notification.

(2) In the event of default being made in electing any Trustee within the period specified therefore under sub-section (4) of section 3 or under section 10, or as the case may be, on or before the date specified in the notification issued under sub-section (1), it shall be lawful for the Central Government to appoint a person by notification in the Official Gazette and the person so appointed shall be deemed to be an elective Trustee.

Term of Office in case of certain trustees

Where a Trustee is appointed under section 11 or under sub-section (2) of section 12 or elected in pursuance of a direction issued under sub-section (1) of section 12, the term of office of such Trustee shall commence on the date on which his appointment or election, as the case may be, is notified in the Official Gazette and shall expire on the date on which his term of office would have expired if his appointment or election had been made within the period specified under section 10, or, as the case may be, under sub-section (4) of section 3.

Absence of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

If the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman is, by infirmity or otherwise, rendered incapable of carrying out his duties or is absent on leave or otherwise, in circumstances not involving the vacation of his appointment, or is sent on deputation outside India for any of the purposes of this Act, the Central Government may appoint another person to act in his place during his absence: Provided that the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman, while on deputation outside India may, if the Central Government by order so directs and subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be specified in that order, exercise such of the powers and perform such of the duties conferred or imposed on the Chairman or the Deputy Chairman, as the case may be, by or under this Act as he may deem necessary, and the Chairman or Deputy Chairman while exercising such powers and performing such duties shall be deemed to be a Trustee notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Act.²⁰

Acting Chairman or Deputy Chairman

The Central Government may, pending the consideration of the question as to who may be appointed as Chairman or Deputy Chairman of a Board under section 3 or section 4, appoint a person to be the Acting Chairman or Deputy Chairman thereof and notify his name in the Official Gazette and the person so appointed shall, until the Central Government by notification in the Official Gazette otherwise directs, be deemed for the purposes of this Act to be the Chairman or Deputy Chairman of such Board appointed under section 3 or section 4, as the case may be.²¹

Conditions of Service of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

The Chairman and the Deputy Chairman shall be paid such salary and be governed by such terms and conditions of service as may, from time to time, be determined by the Central Government.

Meetings of Board

(1) A Board shall meet at such times and places and shall, subject to the provisions of subject to the provision of sub-section (2), (3) and (4), observe such rules of procedure in regard to the transaction of business at its meetings as may be provided by rules made under this Act.²²

(2) The Chairman or, in his absence, the Deputy Chairman, and in the absence of both, any person chosen by the Trustees present from among themselves, shall preside at meetings of the Board.

(3) All questions at a meeting of the Board shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the Trustees present and voting and, in the case of an equality of votes, the person presiding shall have a second or casting vote.

(4) No business shall be transacted at any meeting of the Board unless not less than five Trustees are present throughout such meeting.

Committees of Board

(1) A Board may, from time to time, constitute from amongst the Trustees one or more committees, each consisting of such number as the Board may consider necessary, for the purpose of discharging such of its functions as may be delegated to committee or committees by the Board. Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1) or any other provision of this Act, the Board may appoint a person who is not a Trustee to be a member of any Committee constituted under that sub-section and a person so appointed shall, for the purpose of the discharge of his functions as such member, be deemed to be a Trustee.²³

(2) A committee constituted under this section shall meet at such time and at such places and shall observe such rules of procedure in regard to the transaction of business in its meeting (including the quorum) as may be provided by regulations made under this Act.

Fees and allowances of Trustees

The Trustees shall be paid by the Board such fees and allowances for attending the meetings of the Board or of any of its committees and for attending to any other work of the Board as may be provided by rules made under this Act. It is also provided that no fees shall be payable to the Chairman, Deputy Chairman or any other Trustee who is a servant of the Government.²⁴ A member of a committee appointed under sub-section (1A) of section 17 shall be paid the same fees and allowances for attending the meetings of the committee and for attending to any other work of the Board as are payable to a Trustee under sub-section (1) provided that the Board may, with the prior approval of the Central Government, pay to any such member fees and allowances at a rate higher than that provided in the case of Trustees.²⁵

Restriction of Power of Trustees to vote in certain cases

No Trustee shall vote or take part in the discussion of any matter coming up for consideration at a meeting of the Board or any of its committees if the matter is one in which he has any direct or indirect pecuniary interest by himself or his partner, or in which he is interested professionally on behalf of a client or as agent for any person other than the Government²⁶ [or an undertaking owned or controlled by the Government] or a local authority or a trade union registered under²⁷ [the Trade Unions Act, 1926 (16 of 1926), or other than as officer or member of an association formed for the purpose of promoting the interests or welfare of any class of employees of the Board.

Defects in Appointments or Election Not to Invalidate Acts

No Act or proceeding of a Board or of any of its committees shall be invalidated merely by reason of-

- (a) any vacancy therein or any defect in the constitution thereof, or
- (b) any defect in the election or appointment of a person as a member thereof, or
- (c) any Trustee having acted or taken part in any proceedings in contravention of section 19, or
- (d) any irregularity in its procedure not affecting the merits of the case.

Delegation of powers

A Board may, with the approval of the Central Government, specify-

- (a) the powers and duties conferred or imposed upon the Board by or under this Act, which may also be exercised or performed by the Chairman; and
- (b) the powers and duties conferred or imposed on the Chairman by or under this Act, which may also be exercised or performed by the Deputy Chairman or any officer of the Board and the conditions and restrictions, if any, subject to which such powers and duties may be exercised and performed;
- (c) Provided that any powers and duties conferred or imposed upon the Deputy Chairman or any officer of the Board under clause (b) shall be exercised and performed by him subject to the supervision and control of the Chairman.²⁸

Duties of Chairman and Deputy Chairman

- (1) It shall be the duty of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman to attend every meeting of the Board unless prevented by sickness or other reasonable cause.
- (2) 'The Chairman shall, as soon as possible, transmit to the Central Government a copy of the minutes of every meeting of the Board and shall furnish to that Government such reports, returns, documents or other information as it may, from time to time, call for.
- (3) The Chairman shall exercise supervision and control over the acts of all employees of the Board in matters of executive administration and in matters concerning the accounts and records of the Board.

Administration and Accounts

The affairs of each Port Trust are under the supervision and control of a Board of Trustees consisting of a Chairman, Deputy Chairman and not more than 19 members in the case of Chennai and not more than 17 members in the case of Tuticorin.²⁹ The Chairman of each Major Port is a full time officer appointed by the Government of India.³⁰ He exercises supervision and control over the acts of all employees of the Trust in matters of executive administration, including those concerning the maintenance of accounts and records of the Port in accordance with the provisions of Section 22 of the Act.³¹

The Port Trusts are required to maintain proper accounts and other relevant records and prepare the annual statement of accounts including the balance sheet in such form as may be specified by the Government of India in consultation with the Comptroller and Auditor General of India.³² The form of annual accounts to be presented by the Madras Port Trust with effect from 1st April 1969 was prescribed by the Government of India in the Ministry of Shipping and Transport in letter No.13-PG(33)/69 dated the 25th February 1970. The same format was adopted by the Tuticorin Port Trust also.³³

Secretary's Department

The Secretary is assisted by a team of officers such as the Senior Deputy Secretary, two Deputy Secretaries, Training Manager, Labour Welfare Officer and the Public Relations Officer. This department deals with matters relating to the Board Meeting, Secretariat, Industrial Relations, Public Relations, Labour Welfare,³⁴ Vigilance, Rules and Regulations, Reservation in appointment and promotion for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Tuticorin Port Trust Employees (Educational Assistance).³⁵

Functions of Secretary's Department

1. To maintain matters relating to the Board.
2. Prompt and proper disposal of all communications, addressed to the Deputy Chairman and Chairman, from Government, outside parties or heads of departments, after obtaining the orders of the Deputy Chairman and Chairman, wherever necessary.
3. To maintain Establishment matters, all rules and regulations, procedures etc., development of Human Resources and Training.
4. To maintain industrial relations.
5. Legal matters
6. Security and Vigilance
7. Implementation of Official Language- Hindi.
8. Public Relations, Guest House Library and publication of House Journal
9. Welfare measures of the employees
10. Allotment of Quarters
11. In charge of Trust's P&T Telephones/Cell Phones and its maintenance.
12. Recruitment and induction of new employees and promotions.

Finance Department

Functions of Finance Department

The Finance Department was started with effect from 1st April 1973 and it is headed by the Financial Advisor and Chief Accounts Officer. The EDP (Electronic Data Processing) Center was formed in September 1980. It is functioning under the Financial Advisor and Chief Accounts Officer.³⁶

The Finance Department comprises the following sections.

1. Accounts, Audit and Budget Section 2. Cash, 3. Costing, 4. Pension, 5. Advance, 6. Payable, 7. Investment and Corporate Tax, 8. Revenue – I, 9. Revenue – II, 10. Materials, 11. Work Section, 12. Establishment Section, 13. General, 14. Internal Audit, 15. Zone-B Accounts.

1. FA & CAO (Financial Advisor and Chief Accounts Officer) Overall Control of Accounts Departments.
2. Deputy FA & CAO (Deputy Financial Advisor and Chief Accounts Officer) to assist the FA & CAO in all financial matters.
3. CAO (Cost Accounts Officer) prepares the scale of rate and budget for various services.
4. JCAO (Junior Cost Accounts Officer) assisting the CAO in all his works.
5. AO (Accounts Officer) processing of proposals and settlement of bills.
6. JAO (Junior Accounts Officer) scrutinizes proposals and bills.

Accounts of the Ports

Prior to the formation of the Integrated Tuticorin Port Trust, the Major Port of New Tuticorin was treated as a Department of the Government of India and the monthly accounts were sent to the Government for incorporation in the accounts of the Union Government. In the Minor Port, the accounts were compiled separately for the Port Fund and the Port Trust Fund. Consequent on the formation of the Integrated Tuticorin Port Trust, with effect from 1 April 1979, the revised accounting system followed by other major ports was introduced in Tuticorin Port also.³⁷

Marine Department

The duties and responsibilities of Deputy Conservator, Harbour Master, Dock Master I, Dock Master II, Dock Master III, Pilot, Administrative Officers of Establishment, General and Shipping Sections are related to:³⁸

- a) Vessel related charges
- b) Pilotage
- c) Operation of floating crafts.
- d) Provision of tug assistance for towing.
- e) Fire Fighting
- f) Pollution control
- g) Collection of meteorological data.³⁹

Stores Department

The Stores Department is headed by the Controller of Stores who is assisted by the Deputy Controller and Assistant Controller of Stores. Their main functions are purchase, custody, issue and disposal of materials, equipments etc, which are necessary for the Port.⁴⁰

The Department's main functions are:

- a) Meeting the requirement of various departments of the Trust in the matter of purchase of materials except special plant and equipment, materials required for construction works viz, sand, stone metal, gravel, bricks etc., and medicines required by the Trust.
- b) Procuring, clearing, receiving, inspecting, storage and issue of materials.
- c) Arranging disposal through sales (or) otherwise of surplus and unserviceable stores including condemned plant and machinery.

d) Applying tools and techniques of materials management to ensure economy on expenditure on materials.⁴¹

Traffic Department

The Traffic Manager is the head of the Traffic Department. The Traffic Manager takes decisions regarding berthing of vessels, cargo handling, storage, real estate management etc. Certain functions of the Department are delegated to officers as below:⁴²

1. Container Terminal Manager: For entire operational issues, labour issues, marketing, equipments etc.
2. Docks Manager (Commercial): All documentation, collection of cargo related charges and settlement of disputes with regard to cargoes.
3. Deputy Traffic Manager (Railways): Implements the decisions on the operational issues of Railway related matters and also employees working in that division.⁴³

Assistant Traffic Manager/Area Managers: These officers are directly involved in the ship operations, achieving performance and control all areas and report to the higher officers on all matters.

CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

This Department creates or upgrades existing Civil Infrastructure, including berths and warehouses for development works. The Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Wing that was under the overall charge of the Chief Engineer, has been constituted as a separate Department under the charge of a Chief Mechanical Engineer. This Department consists of Superintending Mechanical Engineer, Executive Engineer/ Assistant Executive Engineer and Assistant Engineer. This Department has to look after the cargo handling, iron ore and oil workshop equipment operation and maintenance, floating craft maintenance, electricity and water supply, mechanical and electrical maintenance.⁴⁴

Supervisors of the Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Department are imparted intensive training by the National Productivity Council in modern techniques, planning, maintenance and safety. After the training, Supervisors themselves are able to evolve the network, techniques applicable to overhaul programmes of all important cargo handling equipments. The Industrial Engineering Wing, which was constituted for the first time in the Electrical and Mechanical Department, undertakes detailed studies.⁴⁵ They are,

- (i) Maintaining existing structures such as berths, wharf accessories etc.,
- (ii) Cleaning of Port road for transport of coal & other cargo
- (iii) Capital and maintenance dredging alongside berths, basins & channels after necessary hydrographic surveys.
- (iv) Project & maintenance lease of fishing harbour lands and sheds.

Medical Department

Health is an important factor that raises one's economic status not only through increasing the working capacity but also the desire to work. In realisation of this view the Tuticorin Port Trust takes measures to improve the lot of its employees with regard to their health and hygiene. Among the various Departments of the Tuticorin Port Trust, the Medical Department is an important one.⁴⁶

- a) Provides medical treatment to all the employees and dependents, retired employees and their spouses.
- b) Emergency Services are rendered round the clock in the casualty ward of the Port Hospital even to general public, apart from the regular outpatient's timings of the hospital.
- c) All possible surgeries are done by the specialists in the fully air conditioned O.T.
- d) All normal and complicated deliveries are also undertaken round the clock in the Port Hospital.
- e) Medical facilities are given to SCL, Dock Safety, Educational Agency, CISF, Harbour Post Office, TNMA, RAO, CHLP, as well as the employees of the Southern Railway.
- f) The dispensary wing of the Medical Department, situated in the town area, caters to the medical needs of the port employees and dependents and retired employees and spouses, residing in Tuticorin Town.

g) First Aid Services are provided at VOC wharf and additional berth.

Delegation of Powers

The Board of Trustees of the Port, with the approval of the Government of India, may specify the powers and duties conferred upon the Board which can also be exercised or performed by the Chairman and the powers and duties conferred or imposed on the Chairman, which may also be exercised or performed by the Deputy Chairman or any officer of the Board and the conditions and restrictions, if any, subject to which such powers and duties may be exercised or performed. Provided that any powers and duties conferred or imposed upon the Deputy Chairman or any officer of the Board shall be exercised and performed by him subject to supervision and control of the Chairman.⁴⁷

The Central Treasury Rules and General Financial Rules apply in respect of financial transactions and the Central Public Works Accounts Code issued by the Government of India, apply in respect of works transactions in Chennai and Tuticorin Port Trusts except in cases where specific provisions have otherwise been made.

In the year 1963 Indian Port Trust Act was passed. Based on this Act, in the year 1979, Port Trust at Tuticorin was started. According this composition a Chairman, Deputy Chairman the Eight Departments run the port. In this circumstance this chapter deals with structure of Port Trust Administration and its function.

NOTES & REFERENCES

¹ Jamas Hornel, *The Pearl Fisheries of the Gulf of Mannar and Palk Bay*, Madras: Madras Government Press, 1922, p. 6; Jorge Flores Manuel, "Cael Velho", "Calepatanão" and "Punicale". *The Portuguese and the Tamiaparni Ports in the Sixteenth Century*, *India and Europe between the Sixteenth and Eighteenth Centuries, in the Bulletin of the French School of the Far East*, volume 82, 1995, pp. 9-26.

² S. Arunachalm, *The Pearl Fishery of the Tamil Coast*, Annamalai Nagar: Annamalai University, 1952, pp. 15-16; Animesh Ray's, *Maritime India: Ports and Shipping*, Delhi: 1995, p. 325; Meera Kosambi and John E. Brush, "Three Colonial Port Cities in India", *Geographical Review*, Vol. 78, No. 1, Jan 1988, pp. 32-47.

³ The Tuticorin Port Trust Act (Act 2 of 1924), Madras, Fort St. George Gazette of the 27 May, 1924, pp. 137-197.

⁴ Major Port of New Tuticorin Rules, (sub-section (2) of section 6 of the Indian Port Act, 1908 (15 of 1908) pp. 1416 to 1434, New Delhi: Government of India in the Ministry of Shipping and Transport the 25th March, 1977, pp. 1-25.

⁵ Tuticorin Port Trust Administration Report 1879- 80, Tuticorin Port Trust, 1980, p. 4.

⁶ Major Port of New Tuticorin Rules, (sub-section (2) of section 6 of the New Delhi: Government of India in the Ministry of Shipping and Transport the 25 March, 1977, p. 3.

⁷ The Second sentence of sub-section (1) a3 amended by section 2 of the Tuticorin Port Trust (Amendment) Act, 1927 (Madras Act III of 1928), was omitted by section 3 (i) of the Tuticorin port Trust (Amendment) Act, 1949 (Tamil Nadu Act XXXII of 1949). which came into force on the 25 January 1950.

⁸ Substituted by Act No. 17 of 1982 for earlier clause (b), w.e.f. 31 May, 1982.

⁹ Substituted by Act No. 29 of 1974 for earlier clauses (c) and (d), w.e.f. 1 February, 1975.

¹⁰ Trade Unions Act, 1926 (16 of 1926) Office of the Superintendent of Government Printing, 1926. p. 18.

¹¹ Substituted by Act No. 29 of 1974 for the words, figure and brackets "clause (d) of sub-section (1)", w.e.f. 1 February, 1975.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ Substituted by Act No. 29 of 1974 for the words "not exceeding twenty-two", w.e.f. 1 February, 1975.

¹⁴ Substituted by Act No. 29 of 1974 for for the words, figure and brackets "in sub-clauses (ii), (iii), (v) and (vi) of clause (c)" w.e.f 1February, 1975.

- ¹⁵ Substituted by Act No. 29 of 1974 for the earlier proviso, w.e.f. 1st February, 1975.
- ¹⁶ Inserted by Act No. 29 of 1974, w.e.f. 1st February, 1975.
- ¹⁷ The Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 (Act No. 38 of 1963 dated 16 October, 1963), p. 22.
- ¹⁸ In exercise of powers conferred by Section 28, read with Section 124, of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 (38 of 1963), the Board of Trustees of the Port of Tuticorin.
- ¹⁹ *Ibid.*
- ²¹ Inserted by Act No. 17 of 1982, w.e.f. 31 May, 1982.
- ²² G.S.R. 725 – Whereas the draft of the Major Port Trusts (procedure at Board Meetings) Rules, 1981 was published, as required by sub-section (2) of section 122 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 (38 of 1963, at pages 872-873 of the Gazette of India, Part II, Section 3, Sub section (i), dated the 28 March, 1981, p. 1.
- ²³ Inserted by Act No. 17 of 1982, w.e.f. 31 May, 1982.
- ²⁴ Section 18 renumbered as sub-section (1) thereof by Act No. 17 of 1982, w.e.f. 31 May, 1982.
- ²⁵ Inserted by Act No. 17 of 1982, w.e.f. 31 May, 1982.
- ²⁶ Inserted by Act No. 29 of 1974, w.e.f. 1 February, 1975.
- ²⁷ Substituted by Act No. 29 of 1974, for the words and figure "the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926", w.e.f. 1 February, 1975.
- ²⁸ Added by Act No. 29 of 1974, w.e.f. 1 February, 1975.
- ²⁹ Section 3 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963.
- ³⁰ The Tuticorin Port Trust (Recruitment of Heads of Department) Regulations, 1991, were published vide GSR 506 (E) of the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, dated the 26 July, 1991.
- ³¹ Tuticorin Port Employees (Classification, Control And Appeal) Regulations, 1979, section 126, read with section 28 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 (38 of 1963).
- ³² Section 102 (1) of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963.
- ³³ The Ministry of Shipping and Transport in letter No.13-PG (33)/69 dated the 25 February 1970.
- ³⁴ G.S.R. 15(E) In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (i) of Section 124, read with Sub-Section (i) of Section 132 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 (38 of 1963), the Central Government hereby approves the Tuticorin Port Trust Employees (Family Security Fund) Regulations, 1991, pp.1-10.
- ³⁵ G.S.R. 874 (E):- In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-section (i) of Section 124, read with Sub-Section (i) of section 132 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 (38 of 1963), the Central Government hereby approves the Tuticorin Port Trust Employees' (Educational Assistance) Regulations, 1990, pp. 1-7.
- ³⁶ Office of the Accountant General (Civil Audit), Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, Manual of the Resident Audit Offices Chennai and Tuticorin Port Trusts, Chennai: 2008, p. 5.
- ³⁷ Tuticorin Port Trust Accounts Department Administration Manual, Tuticorin Port Trust, 1979, p. 17.
- ³⁸ GSR 529 The Major Port of Tuticorin (Harbour Craft) Rules 1976, was published as required by sub-section (2) of section 6 of the Indian Ports Act, 1908 (15 of 1908) at pages 1748 to 1753 of the *Gazette of India*, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), dated the 26th June, 1976, under the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Shipping and Transport (Transport Wing) No. GSR 917, dated the 15 May, 1976, p. 18.
- ³⁹ Tuticorin Port trust Marine Department Administration Manual, Tuticorin Port Trust, 1979, p. 45.
- ⁴⁰ Tuticorin Port trust Stores Department Administration Manual, Tuticorin Port Trust, 1979, p.13.
- ⁴¹ *Ibid.*
- ⁴² Tuticorin Port trust Traffic Department Administration Manual, Tuticorin Port Trust, 1979, p. 3.
- ⁴³ *Ibid.*

⁴⁴ Tuticorin Port trust Civil Engineer Department Administration Manual, Tuticorin Port Trust, 1979, p. 1.

⁴⁵ G.S.R. 987(E). - In exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section(i) of section 124 sub section (1) of section 132 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 (38 of 1963). The central Government hereby approves the Tuticorin Port Safety Regulations, 1985, made by the Board of Trustees of Tuticorin in exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 123 of the said Act and published in the Tamil Nadu government Gazette dated 15 April, 1987 and 22 April, 1987, p. 5.

⁴⁶ G.S.R. 537 (E).- In exercise of the powers conferred by sub section (1) of 124, read with sub- section (1) of section 132 of the Major Ports Act, 1963 (38 of 1963), p. 7.

⁴⁷ Under Section 21 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963.



Dr. K. Marimuthu

Guest Lecturer , Department of History , Bharathidasan University , Tiruchirappalli.