

## MSME Department Government of Odisha

Expression of Interest from Container Shipping Companies for Viability Gap Funding to Start Shipping of Containerized Cargo Export/Import through Paradeep Port (Odisha)

Companies located in Odisha are importing and exporting huge quantities of containerized cargo primarily through seaports located outside Odisha and thereby incurring extra logistics expenses. Government of Odisha wants these companies to undertake their import and export through Paradeep Port (Odisha) which will not only reduce their logistics expenses but will also lead to a vibrant trade and commerce ecosystem in the State.

Considering the huge potential, container shipping companies may consider to commence container shipping operation to/from Paradeep Port by making commercial arrangements with importing/exporting companies located in Odisha. To start with, a feeder vessel (having capacity to load around 300 TeUs) can operate, on a fortnightly fixed day sailing basis, between Paradeep Port (Odisha) and nearby major international trans-shipment hubs such as Port Klang (Malaysia), Singapore, Colombo, Chennai, etc. Subsequently, as demand grows, sailings can be scheduled on weekly basis. It is expected that once container shipping operation commences to/from Paradeep Port, containerized export/import cargo traffic of nearby land-locked States such as Jharkhand and Chhatishgarh will gradually be drawn towards Paradeep Port.

Though such container shipping operation to/from Paradeep Port will be commercially viable, the State Government is willing to consider extending financial support to container shipping companies, during initial months, in case of the unlikely event of non-viability of their shipping operation. Therefore, Expression of Interest for viability gap funding is hereby invited from interested container shipping companies which should be submitted (alongwith detailed shipping operation plan) to the undersigned in the following address by 31.12.2023.

## Address

Kharavela Bhawan, Gopabandhu Marg, Bhubaneswar – 751001 Principal Secretary Phone No: +91 0674-2391384/2393055, Email: secy-msme.od@nic.in MSME Department