

PORT OF MUMBAI

ABOUT

Welcome to Port of Mumbai..! also known as the Bombay Port Trust is a port which lies midway on the West coast of India, on the natural deep-water harbour of Mumbai (Bombay) in Maharashtra. The harbour spread over 400 square kilometres (150 sq mi) is protected by the mainland of Konkan to its east and north and by the island city of Mumbai to its west.[1] The harbour opens to the south to the Arabian Sea. The port is administered by the Mumbai Port Trust (MbPT, formerly the Bombay Port Trust (BPT)), an autonomous corporation wholly owned by the Government of India. The port is primarily used for bulk cargo, while most container traffic is directed to Nhava Sheva port across the harbour. Mumbai Harbour has been used by ships and boats for centuries. It was used by the Maratha Navy, as well as the British and Portuguese colonial navies. In 1652, the Surat Council of the East India Company, realising the geographical advantage of the Port, urged its purchase from the Portuguese. The first of the present-day docks of the Port were built in the 1870s. Bombay Port Trust (BPT) was established as a corporation on 26 June 1873.[6] BPT's founding chairman was Colonel J.A. Ballard. Port development was undertaken by the civil engineering partnership Sir John Wolfe-Barry and Lt Col Arthur John Barry as Joint Consulting Engineers to the Bombay Port Trust at the end of the nineteenth century.

From its establishment, the port has been the gateway to India, and was a primary factor in the emergence of Mumbai as the commercial capital of India. The port and the corporation took their present names in the 1990s. Over the decades, the port underwent tremendous expansion, with the addition of berths and cargo handling capacities. However, Mumbai's expanding growth and population pressure constrained the growth of the port by the 1970s. This led to the establishment of the Nhava Sheva port across Mumbai Harbour in Navi Mumbai on the Konkan mainland. Nhava Sheva began operations in 1989, and most container traffic now flows through Nhava Sheva. With a minimum draft of 6.9 metres (23 ft). Victoria Dock, commissioned in 1891, had 14 berths as of 2008 with a minimum draft of 6.7 metres (22 ft). Indira Dock, commissioned in 1914, had 21 berths, with a minimum draft of 7.0 metres (23.0 ft). Prince's Dock and Victoria Dock are semi-tidal docks, with vessels docking and departing at high tide. Indira Dock has a lock, enabling vessels to enter or depart at any time. The port has four jetties on Jawahar Dweep, an island in the harbour, for handling Crude and petroleum products. These jetties have a draft of 12.2 metres (40 ft). Liquid chemicals are handled from a jetty on Pirpau.

The Port of Mumbai provides integrated sea-port facilities to handle, store and deliver cargo. The port is well connected through an extensive road network of 126km. The port has its own railway system connected to the Central and Western Railway through the broad gauge main line. With a track of nearly 100km and five diesel locomotives, the port's railway system serves docks and important installations and factories on its estates. Mumbai's port can supply drinking water to the ships in the stream and at the berths. Water to the berthed ships is supplied through hydrants installed alongside the berths, whereas vessels in the stream obtain water from water boats. Almost all the berths can be used for oil bunkering. Cargo storage facilities are available in the docks and outlying areas of the port. The storage area is built using steel-framed modern sheds and walls of pre-cast concrete blocks. The port has covered storage space of 319,900m², open storage space of 176,000m² and a ground slot of 128,000m². About 200 reefer points are provided for refrigerated cargo at selected berths. The port is composed of three wet docks: Prince's Dock was commissioned in 1880, Victoria Dock commissioned in 1888, and Indira Dock commissioned in 1914. Prince's Dock has eight berths with a total length of 1,220m and alongside depths ranging from 6.1m to 6.4m. The dock's two berths are 212m long, four are 140m, two are 138m, and one is 100m. Victoria Dock constitutes 14 multipurpose berths with a total length of 1,732m and an alongside depth of 6.7m. The dock's 15th berth is reserved for Mumbai Port Trust tugs and launches. Indira Dock has 15 multipurpose berths with a total length of 2,641m and five berths that handle containers are of 812m long. Maintenance and repair works are undertaken at two dry docks: Merewether in Prince's Dock and Hughes in Indira Dock. Electrified pumps are used at the Hughes dry dock to impound water to an additional height of 1.2m. The port's Ballard Pier Station handles containers and passenger ships. Its container berth is 244m long with an alongside depth of 10m, while its passenger berth is 232m long and 10m deep. The port also has several open wharves and basins with facilities to handle and store cargo carried by sailing vessels.