

## **SEAWAYS HANDLES FIRST VESSEL UNDER INDO-BANGLADESH COASTAL SHIPPING TREATY**

Seaways Shipping And Logistics Limited (“Seaways”) has handled the first vessel from Paradip Port under the Indo-Bangladesh Coastal Shipping Treaty signed by both the governments.

The first Bangladesh flagged vessel under this treaty, *MV Shamayel* called at Paradip Port in Orissa, India on December 29, 2016, carrying 149 empty containers and sailed back with 91 containers loaded with sponge iron. The vessel reached Chittagong, Bangladesh safely on January 1, 2017, thus completing the voyage under the Coastal Shipping Treaty between the two countries.

The scope of work undertaken by Seaways include inland haulage from ex-works, arranging for the vessel, stevedoring, vessel agency and last mile delivery from Chittagong Port to destination.

It is a proud moment for Seaways as the company has played an important role in fulfilling the ambition of Government of India to bring down the logistics costs of carrying containerized cargo between India and Bangladesh.

Traditionally, container cargo from India was shipped to Bangladeshi ports via Singapore or Colombo hub ports. This not only increased the time taken for the cargo to reach their destination, but also burdened the shippers with additional costs. Under the Coastal Shipping Treaty, both Indian and Bangladeshi Governments will treat each other’s vessel as their own national vessels and allow for direct cargo movement between each other’s ports. Now, the transit time has reduced by more than two weeks and shippers will save on the additional charges that were being charged by the hub ports. This carriage by sea will also give a fillip to coastal shipping and will provide an alternative to the tedious road movement across borders.

### **About Seaways Group**

Seaways is one of the largest integrated logistics service and solutions providers in India and offers complete range of logistics services across the globe. Headquartered in Hyderabad, the 27-year old Group has branches located strategically across India and overseas. The Group offers non-vessel operating common carrier services, ocean and air freight forwarding services, bulk cargo handling services, turnkey and integrated logistics solutions and free tradewarehousing zone services and offshore logistics .