

MAIDEN CALL OF CRUISE LINER M.V. MEIN SCHIFF 5

M.V. MEIN SCHIFF 5 a luxury cruise liner owned by TUI Cruises carrying 2457 high end tourists and 1017 crew members arrived at the Mormugao port on 28th February 2018 early morning on its maiden visit to the State. The cruise vessel having a LOA of 295.30 metres arrived under the command of Master Thomas Roth and was docked safely at the port Cruise Terminal under the able command of Capt. Manoj Joshi Dy. Conservator and Capt. Shaji Ummer Harbour Master of Mormugao Port Trust.

Shri G. P. Rai, Dy. Chairman/MPT, along with the senior port executives Shri Vipin R Menoth Traffic Manager, Shri Vinayaka Rao, FA&CAO, Capt. Manoj Joshi Dy. Conservator, Shri S.K.S. Hegde, Chief Mechanical Engineer I/C, Shri Jerome Clement Sr. Dy. Traffic Manager, Shri Anant V. P. Chodnekar Sr. Dy. CAO, Capt. Shaji Ummer, Harbour Master, Shri D.M. Tiwari Dy. Commandant, welcomed the Master of the vessel and the officers and crew on its maiden visit to Mormugao on board the ship.

Interacting with the visiting Master of the vessel, Shri Rai said 'Mormugao Port is taking all out efforts to extend the best of infrastructure facilities to the cruise liners visiting Goa. The Ministry of Shipping, and the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India is vigorously promoting Cruise tourism at Indian Ports and is assisting ports in creating necessary infrastructure of world class. Our port is even in readiness to host cruise liners for an overnight stay at this port with all security measures to give a further boost to cruise tourism in the state'. The Master of the vessel, reciprocated by saying 'It's a special honor to be in Goa with a pleasant weather and good number of beaches. We have received great hospitality while here at Mormugao port. I am happy with the infrastructural facilities available here for cruise liners, safe and clean piers, fenders, and safe maneuvering by the experienced port Pilot. Another cruise ship will visit Goa during the next year'. They later exchanged commemorative plaques as a gesture of goodwill and friendship.

The Customs and Immigration and the CISF have done a commendable job in facilitating the smooth transition of the cruise vessel and guests on board.

The visiting high end guests and crew have availed the facilities provided by local tour operators Le Passage and Leisure Ventures to explore the beaches and other tourists spots in Goa. The high

end guests were immediately taken for sight-seeing tours across Goa in luxury coaches and taxis by the travel agents. All the high end guests and crew were issued e-Landing permits. The vessel sailed on its onward voyage to Muscat in the evening. M/s. J. M. Baxi & Co., were the Shipping Agents for the cruise liner and provided the necessary logistical support to the vessel.



