

VISAKHAPATNAM PORT AUTHORITY
TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

To
ALL PORT USERS

NO.ITRA/SHP/AMN
DT. 28-04-2026

CIRCULAR NO 1925

Sub: Import and Handling of Ammonium Nitrate at Visakhapatnam Port –
Resumption for Limited Period – Safety and Regulatory Compliance – Reg.
Ref: APPCB LR. NO.724-APPCB-HO-ECS-TF-VSP-2023 DATED 213-04-2026

In pursuance of the permission accorded by the Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board (APPCB) vide reference cited, permitting resumption of import and handling of Ammonium Nitrate (AN) at Visakhapatnam Port for a limited period of six (6) months or until the prevailing Middle East crisis is resolved, whichever is earlier, all port users are hereby informed that such operations shall be carried out strictly in accordance with the prescribed safety, environmental, and statutory requirements.

All importers, stevedores, handling agents, shipping lines, transporters, and other stakeholders involved in the import, handling, and evacuation of Ammonium Nitrate shall ensure strict compliance with the provisions of the Ammonium Nitrate Rules, 2012, the Manufacture, Storage and Import of Hazardous Chemicals Rules, 1989 (MSIHC Rules), the Explosives Act and Rules, and all other applicable statutory regulations. The handling of Ammonium Nitrate shall be undertaken only at designated and approved berths/areas, strictly adhering to all safety protocols, including those recommended by the Directorate General Factory Advice Service & Labour Institutes (DGFASLI). Adequate firefighting arrangements, emergency preparedness measures, trained personnel, and continuous monitoring systems shall be ensured at all times.

Importers shall ensure that Ammonium Nitrate cargo is not stored within the port premises under any circumstances. The material shall be handled strictly on a direct delivery basis and shall be transported immediately from the vessel to the importer's designated premises without any intermediate storage, strictly in accordance with prescribed safety norms and regulatory requirements.

It is hereby mandated that all importers intending to import Ammonium Nitrate through Visakhapatnam Port shall submit a duly notarized affidavit to the Port Authority prior to commencement of import operations, unequivocally undertaking that they shall comply with all statutory provisions, safety requirements, and conditions stipulated by APPCB, DGFASLI, and Visakhapatnam Port Authority. The affidavit shall also include an undertaking accepting full responsibility and liability for safe handling, transportation, and for any accident, loss, damage, or environmental impact arising out of such operations, and shall indemnify the Visakhapatnam Port Authority against any claims or liabilities. No vessel carrying Ammonium Nitrate shall be permitted for handling at the port unless such affidavit is submitted and duly accepted by the competent authority.

The responsibility for ensuring compliance with all applicable regulations and safety measures shall rest entirely with the importer and all concerned stakeholders. Any violation of the stipulated conditions or statutory provisions shall invite immediate suspension of operations, denial of port services, and initiation of action as per applicable laws. The Visakhapatnam Port Authority reserves the right to regulate, restrict, or stop operations in the interest of safety, environment, and public welfare.

All port users are hereby directed to strictly adhere to the above instructions. This circular shall come into force with immediate effect and shall remain valid for the period specified in the APPCB orders.

All stakeholders are advised to coordinate closely with port authorities and ensure strict adherence to the above directions.

Yours faithfully,


TRAFFIC MANAGER

Copy to: The Secretary, MoPSW for information.

Copy to: Chairman, APPCB for information.

Copy to: Member Secretary, APPCB for information

Copy to: The District Collector, Visakhapatnam City, for information.

Copy to: The Commissioner of Police, Visakhapatnam City, for information.

Copy to: JCEE, APPCB, ZO, Visakhapatnam

Copy to:- The Asst. Director (Safety), Inspectorate Dock Safety, Ex. DLB Building,
5th floor, Port Area, Visakhapatnam.

Copy to:- PS to Chairperson for kind information of Chairperson

Copy to:- PS to Dy.Chairperson for kind information of Dy.Chairperson

Copy to:- All Department Heads

Copy to:- Safety Officer/VPA for information and necessary action