

# MUMBAI PORT TRUST

## **Mumbai Port Trust reinforces Sassoon Dock Gate, city's historic glory.**

In its endeavor to keep the glorious past of the city of Mumbai preserved in today's time, the MbPT, which shares 141 years long symbiotic relationship with the city, took charge of fortifying the first gateway to the city's sea trade the Sassoon Dock, reaffirming its historic importance.. Excavated out of solid rock by the company of Sir David Sassoon and named after him, the Sassoon Dock situated at Colaba in South Mumbai was the first wet dock accommodation constructed in about 1870 for commercial purposes. Opening of Suez Canal for traffic in November 1869 established a new sea trade route between the Europe and India reducing the distance by half and revolutionized the maritime trade. The first British Merchant vessel making its passage through the Suez Canal ' Glasgow Herald' was berthed at this historic Sassoon Dock.

Until construction of the Prince's Dock in 1875-80, the sea trade to the city of Mumbai was carried out from the Sasoon Dock, which could accommodate 5 ships of thousand tonnes each. With the opening of the Prince's Dock for traffic in 1880, Mumbai Port Trust dedicated the Sassoon Dock to the city of Mumbai as a safe heaven for fishing activities by the city's 'Koli' Community. One of the most distinguishing features of the Sassoon Dock was its gateway with a centrally built clock tower flanked on either side by the gatehouses. Mumbai Port Trust carried out restorative repairs to the gate structure bringing it back to the original glory and also rejuvenated the historical clock installed in it at a total cost of Rs.25 lakhs.

To accomplish the task of revitalizing the originally installed clock to working order, Mumbai Port Trust engaged the services of Mr. Mohammed Damani, a 68 years old clock repairer, whose family descended from the Ethiopia and have been involved in the repair and maintenance of the street and tower clocks of the city of Mumbai for three generations. Efforts of the Port to enliven this historical heritage structure paid dividend when, after a calm of over fifty years, the tower clock reverberated at the mid night of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014.

## **Mumbai Port join hands with TMH in its fight against cancer.**

Fostering its 141-year long association with the city of Mumbai and responding to a request from the Tata Memorial Hospital to ameliorate the plight of the cancer patients visiting Tata Memorial Hospital (TMH) for treatment from various parts of the country, the Mumbai Port Trust has decided to allot its three buildings comprising 120 residential units of 18.39 square meter each at Cotton Green at a token fee of Rs.101/- to Tata Memorial Hospital under CSR, foregoing a rent of Rs.2.00 crores. TMH is required to maintain these units and make them usable for accommodating the patients under treatment at TMH and their attending relatives free of charge.

Transit allotment of these units to the patients will be regulated by the TMH, which will also be allowed to allot some of these units to their resident doctors. This benevolent gesture of Mumbai Port Trust will improve the facilities at the Tata Memorial Hospital, a leading cancer center of the country and bring respite to the hundreds of patients coming for treatment from outstations.









