Agreement signed for capital dredging at Payra port

STAFF REPORTER

Chairman of Payra Port Authority Commodore Jahangir Alam and Jan De Nul’s Managing Director Jan Piter De Nul sign a contract on behalf of their respective sides at a hotel in the capital yesterday. photo: courtesy

The Payra Port Authority under the shipping ministry and Belgium-based company Jan De Nul yesterday signed an agreement to jointly conduct capital dredging on the main channel of the country’s third seaport Payra in Patuakhali.

Chairman of Payra Port Authority Commodore Jahangir Alam and Jan De Nul’s Managing Director Jan Piter De Nul signed the contract on behalf of their respective sides in the capital yesterday. Shipping minister Shajahan Khan was present at the ceremony.

A joint-venture company (JVC) will carry out the capital dredging and maintenance dredging of the main channel of Payra port.

Among others, lawmaker Mahbubur Rahman, chief coordinator on sustainable development goal (SDG) of Prime Minister’s Office Abul Kalam Azad, acting shipping secretary Abdus Samad and ambassador of Belgium in New Delhi Jan Luykx were present during the signing ceremony.

Speaking on occasion, Shajahan Khan said the development work of 19 components of the port would have to be undertaken immediately to build its capacity.

He said it would help to grow confidence among the international traders and investors if the dredging work is completed by the internationally reputed company Jan De Nul.

"A total of 11 ships have arrived in the outer anchorage since beginning the operational activities of Payra port in 2016. The government has earned Tk 18 crore as revenue within this period and PPA earned Tk 1.88 crore," the shipping minister said.

He further said that one bulk terminal for coal and one multipurpose terminal will be introduced at Payra port by 2020.

It would need €532.43 million to dredge nine metres for turning basin and dredging in terminal areas with 11 metre depth in first phase of the 36.5 nautical mile channel. The width of the turning basin will be 125 metres and 400 metres in terminal areas. Eleven-metre draft ship will be able to enter the main port after completion of the dredging work.

In second phase, 12-metre draft and 14-metre draft ships would be able to enter the main port after completion of the work in near future as per agreement.

The share of the JVC will be 51 per cent for PPA and 49 per cent for JDN and the project duration will be two-year.
The PPA and JDN had signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on May 25 in 2016 capital and maintenance dredging work.

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