On Thursday 30th March, 2017, Union Minister of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari will inaugurate 165 dormitory blocks allotted by the Mumbai Port Trust to Tata Memorial Centre (A grant-in-aid Institute under the Department of Atomic Energy Government of India) to be made available free of charge to outstation children cancer patients who come for treatment at the Tata Memorial Cancer Hospital, Mumbai, along with their parents.

This ambitious and unique humanitarian project inspired by Shri Narendra Modi, Hon’ble Prime Minister of India and pioneered by Shri Nitin Gadkari, Hon’ble Minister of Shipping, Road Transport & Highways undertaken by the Mumbai Port Trust as a part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activities was initiated on 23rd July 2015.

It was observed that most children suffering from cancer and coming for treatment to Tata Memorial Hospital from all over the country, do not have any place to stay. They would end up staying on the pavements outside the hospital. These children need hygienic staying conditions to protect them from the risk of infections.

While associating with the Mumbai city for last 143 years and moved by the pitiable condition of these children coming from far-away places for cancer treatment at Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai Port Trust under the guidance of Hon’ble Shri Nitin Gadkariji decided to step in and help these patients. The Mumbai Port Trust allotted its 128 units in 3 residential buildings and provided them to the cancer patients through Tata Memorial Hospital at a nominal charge under its CSR project. With this, the poorest of the poor families can avail of the vital health care services from renowned Tata Hospital.
This facility has provided the poor cancer patients homely accommodation during the treatment. In addition to basic accommodation, these facility is equipped with recreational facilities like indoor games. Children are also provided counselling n yoga which helps them for early recovery or strength to undergo radiation, chemotherapy etc. Besides, children are provided tuitions at the centre so that there is no loss of academic year, while they are undergoing treatment at the centre.

At the moment 75 children suffering from cancer and their attendant relatives can be housed in these units at any given time. Plans are afoot to include about 90 more beds.

Mumbai Port Trust has taken this noble task on humanitarian grounds for the welfare of socially and economically backward people, keeping in mind the Antyodaya Yojana initiated by late Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya.

29th March 2017

(Rajendra Paibir)
SECRETARY
MUMBAI PORT TRUST