

## Deendayal Port – An Overview:

Due to the partition, the Country was divided into two nations, India and Pakistan, in 1947. As a result, the nation lost the vibrant Port of Karachi to Pakistan. This led to traffic congestion at Bombay Port. Besides, a lot of migrants came from Pakistan to India and Gandhidham was identified as one of the places for their resettlement. Kutch was identified by the Central Government to develop a Port in the West Coast. The Committee constituted for the purpose identified Kandla to be developed as a Major Port. There existed a small RCC Jetty at old Kandla, which was built by the then Ruler of Kutch in 1931, where vessels with a draught upto 8 mtrs. could be berthed throughout the year. This jetty was later converted into the first oil berth of the Major Port of Kandla.

The foundation stone for the Major Port of Kandla was laid by Late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister of India, on 10th January, 1952 and Kandla was declared a Major Port on 8th April, 1955 and was notified as Kandla Port Trust w.e.f. 29th February, 1964 under the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963.

