

Major financial institutions and banks have expressed interest in lending for the project. The Financial Closure process, which has already commenced, is expected to be completed by end December 2005. Construction would start immediately thereafter.

The Master Plan, which is in the pipeline, envisages construction of 13 berths over a period of 10 years, which will take the total port capacity to 80 million tonnes. The first phase will see development of 700 metres of quay line to handle very large bulk carriers with a capacity of 180,000 DWT.

FN: Dhamra Port.doc