

Transforming Dry Ports into Cargo Logistics Parks

Good afternoon everyone and welcome.

I would like to start my speech with the quote of **Allama Iqbal**,

“The Emerging World Is Shaped By Visionary Ideas Not By Stone And Steel”.

My talk is relevant to those who are interested or involved in the business especially of import, export and allied services. It will take me about five minutes to cover the subject of my speech **“Transforming Dry Ports Into Cargo Logistics Parks”**. I would like to brief you about what are the dry ports and finally how it can be transformed into a cargo logistics parks.

Dry port is an inland intermodal terminal directly connected by road or rail to a seaport, operating as a center for the transshipment of sea/air cargo to inland destinations. It can speed up the flow of cargo between ships and major land transportation networks, creating a more central distribution point. Traditionally dry ports provide services for the handling and temporary storage of containers, general and bulk cargoes that enters or leaves the dry ports by any mode of transport such as road, railways and airports. I would like to mention here the name of **sialkot dry port trust** as an example.

1. It provides the **facility of air and sea cargo** handling which provides excellent transit time at competitive rates with real-time tracking for every shipment at every step.
2. A **cargo warehouse** with high level professional warehousing services and care through our integrated inventory management system.
3. A **custom bonded transport** which have dedicated fleet monitoring team that keeps track of every vehicle in order to keep them running safe and steadfast. It also has its own mechanical and technical unit placed throughout the route.

The dry ports provides services for the handling and temporary storage of containers, general and/or bulk cargoes that enters or leaves the dry port by any mode of transport such as road, railways, inland waterways or airports. But in the modern era of business it is the tire need of the hour to convert the dry ports into cargo logistic parks. This is not the impossible task because most of the dry ports of Pakistan located near the business hub of their relevant vicinity and have the potential with relevant experience to convert and operate them as the cargo logistic parks because of their strategic locations. For example as the Sialkot dry port(First Private sector dry port in Asia with phenomenal growth, serve the Golden Triangle-Sialkot, Gujrat, Gujranwala) located adjacent to Sialkot international airport, M-11 motorway terminal, main railway track, export processing zone, ‘Sialkot ternary zone and other SMEs, it can easily be accessed by the roadways that connect these areas.

Transforming of dry ports into cargo logistic parks

The existing dry ports would be transformed into cargo Logistics Park after the indulgence of the new facilities. Some of them are mentioned below;

1. By upgradation of warehouses as per modern designs.
2. By provision of reliable transportation
3. Packaging facilities

4. Consolidation services
5. Storage facilities for finished goods.
6. Grading and branding facilities
7. Parking and general repair maintenance facilities
8. Upgradation of safety measures by installing the different modern safety equipment's.
9. To make it assessable to market/industry by allied transport services.
10. Enhance the processing time by induction of mechanical appliances.
11. Freight forwarding and custom clearance services
12. Banking and insurance services
13. Rental offices spaces
14. Container services

Benefits of Transforming Dry Ports into Cargo Logistics Parks

These are the following some major benefits of cargo logistic parks which can be reap with better management.

1. lower the cost of doing business
2. will reap the benefit of economies of scale
3. Creation of jobs.
4. low capital investment by local businesses
5. open of new markets to local businesses particularly
6. enhance the national and internal trade
7. benefit to govt. in terms of tax collection
8. help full to implement the govt. strategic objectives
9. Direct competition with the national and multinational giants.
10. Better provision of security by the ways of 360 view CCTV camera surveillance by 24/7.
11. Less heavy duty vehicles on the road resultant less carbon emission.
12. Better control on pilferages.
13. Improve the production of the industry.
14. Recognition of place/city as the business hub of particular product.
15. entrant in new markets becomes less challenging
16. save the time in different ways

These all the activities and benefits directly linked with the strategy of the govt. how the competitive or level playing fields to all the industries and for the dry ports transforming/upgradation into the cargo logistic parks will be provided. If the support in the right direction and in the right way provided then thus, all above mentioned processes leads to **an on-time and safe execution** of containerized cargo shipment delivery and a possibility of frame-work that reaps a fruitful returns to Pakistan's economy.

Gentlemen! It is been an honor to be among such accomplished individuals and to be able to present my perspective before you all, thank you for your patience.