

(a) whether it is a fact that fresh guidelines are being worked out for a nation wide survey to identify the Below Poverty Line (BPL) families; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Development constituted an Expert Group to advise the Ministry on the suitable methodology for conducting the Below Poverty Line (BPL) Census for 11th Five Year Plan in August, 2008. The Expert Group submitted its report to the Ministry on 21st August, 2009. The report of the Expert Group has been circulated among the States/UTs and the concerned Central Ministries for their comments and has also been posted on the Ministry's website at www.rural.nic.in. The Ministry is in the process of finalizing the methodology for identification of people living below the Poverty Line in rural areas of the country, taking into account the suggestions/comments of States/UTs and Central Ministries and experts. The guidelines will be prepared once the methodology is finalized.

Projection of Shipping industry

2751. SHRI SITARAM YECHURY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the projections of Shipping industry for the period of Twelfth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether Government has prepared any plan to develop infrastructure to meet the projected growth; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) to (c) Twelfth Five Year Plan proposals have so far not been visualized.

The Government of India has formulated the National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP). It is a comprehensive programme aimed at various issues that need to be addressed to bring holistic growth in the Indian Shipping Industry. The NMDP covers both 11 and 12th Five Year Plan period.

Hijacking of vessel by pirates

†2752. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH:

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that pirates have detained a goods laden Indian ship while it was heading to United Arab Emirates *via* Somalia and the crew members have been taken captive; and

(b) if so, the details of action being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Directorate General of Shipping, Mumbai, has been issuing Maritime Security Advisories to the shipping fraternity on the subject of continuing piracy incidents on merchant ships in the Gulf of Aden and Indian Ocean region. Further, the Directorate has, taking due cognizance of recent spurt in hijacking incidents of dhows, prohibited trading of Indian dhows, south and west of line joining Salalah and Male.

Upgradation of ports on Eastern Coast

2753. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is taking various steps to upgrade several ports on the Eastern Coast;

(b) if so, whether any step is being taken to upgrade the conditions of Kolkata and Haldia ports; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) With the objective to upgrade and modernize port infrastructure in India (which covers both east and west coast) and to enable it to benchmark its performance against global standards, a National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP) has been formulated by the Ministry of Shipping.

(b) and (c) To upgrade the Kolkata and Haldia Ports, 40 projects under National Maritime Development Programme (NMDP) are envisaged. These projects include development of new terminals, mechanization of berths, procurement of equipments, Port connectivity projects etc.

Modification of Paradip Port Trust

2754. SHRI MANGALA KISAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the status of modification of PPT Road from gate No. 4 to Shandhakuda Basti executed by M/s Samal Builders *vide* work order No. CE/HW-11-23/07-457 dated 14 June, 2007;