

**Amendment of Bombay Port Trust Act, 1879**

\*352. SHRI BHARAT KUMAR RAUT : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is aware that the State Government of Maharashtra has submitted a proposal for amendments to the Bombay Port Trust Act, 1879;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the property tax amended under the Mumbai Municipal Corporation Act, 1888 by the Maharashtra State Government will be levied in Mumbai only after the amendments are made to the Bombay Port Trust Act by the Central Government; and

(c) what early action Government will take to make necessary amendments to the Bombay Port Trust Act, 1879?

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

(b) The State Government of Maharashtra has informed that some State Acts as also the Bombay Port Trust Act, 1879 would have to be amended in order to bring in to force the amendment made in the Mumbai Municipal Corporation Act for providing an option to the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai for levying property tax either on the basis of the capital value of properties or their rateable value.

(c) The proposal is under consideration.

**Allocation of CBM block to RIL**

\*353. SHRI AMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate General of Hydrocarbons has accorded its award for allocation of an additional 80 Sq. Km, if adjacent area in the Coal Bed Methane (CBM) block SP(W)-CBM-2001/1 to M/s Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) without going in for an auction under the forthcoming CBM round;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and the reasons therefor;

(c) the officials involved in approving the allocation of block to RIL without going in for auction;

(d) whether Government intends to scrap the proposal of allocation of block to RIL without inviting bids for auction; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?