

(b) Various phases of the expressway project on Build Operate and Transfer basis are:

- (i) Feasibility study involving selection of alignment.
- (ii) Approval for taking up project.
- (iii) Land acquisition.
- (iv) Pre-qualification of bidders.
- (v) Invitation and award of bids.
- (vi) Financial close.
- (vii) Commencement of work.
- (viii) completion of the facility.
- (ix) commercial operation.

(c) Central Government is aware that Government of Gujarat had instructed local bodies (Vadodara Urban Development Authority & various Gram Panchayats) to reserve 300 m land on either side of some alignment proposed earlier. The consultants have to keep this in view while selecting the alignment of the expressway and accommodate this corridor to the extent possible.

(d) The actual work will start only after completion of feasibility study, land acquisition and financial close. These processes are expected to take about four years.

Setting up of Maritime Institute/University in Gujarat

1738. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR RUPANI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to establish Maritime Institute on east and west coast of the country;

(b) if so, which are the States considered;

(c) whether Gujarat State is considered for west coast;

(d) whether Government of Gujarat has requested the Central Government to establish Maritime University in the Gujarat State in view of the large scale port-lead development and shipping activities taking place in the State;

- (e) if so, whether Government are considering the proposal; and
- (f) the present status on the issue?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) to (f) At present, there are four Maritime Training Institutes running under Indian Institute of Maritime Studies, Mumbai viz. Lal Bahadur Shastri College of Advanced Maritime Studies and Research, Mumbai; Training Ship Chanakya, Navi Mumbai; Marine Engineering and Research Institute, Kolkata and Marine Engineering and Research Institute, Mumbai. The Government of India received requests from some States including that of Gujarat for setting up of Maritime Universities in their States. However, action for setting up an Indian Maritime University at Chennai with regional campuses at Kolkata, Mumbai and Visakhapatnam as announced by Hon'ble Finance Minister in his budget speech (2006-07) is under way.

Maritime inspection agencies

1739. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposals to allow the formation of new Shipping and Maritime Inspection Agencies all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of bottlenecks identified with regard to the Mercantile Maritime Department;

(d) the steps taken to encourage shipping by allowing the expansion of Maritime Inspection Agencies; and

(e) the steps taken to modernise all agencies under the charge of DG shipping and streamlining them.

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) to (e) There is no proposal at present with the Government to allow the formation of new Shipping and Maritime Inspection Agencies all over the country. There has been increasing workload on Mercantile Marine Departments due to expansion in the ocean going fleet, off shore vessels, fishing craft etc. and manifold increase in international codes to regulate shipping such as the introduction of maritime pollution prevention requirements, flag state and