

Uniform insurance policy for ports

1656. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is devising a uniform policy allowing major ports to go in for insurance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has drafted a policy that classified the risks in three different categories floating equipments which go to the sea, the on-ground port machinery and the third covers the loss of business due to any uncontrollable circumstances; and

(d) if so, whether the scheme will give great relief to the shipping industry?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G. K. VASAN): (a) to (d) No, Sir. No decision on Insurance policy has been taken by this Ministry.

Transportation in Ganga

1657. SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is utilizing the infrastructure fully in inland water transport over river Ganga through Patna-Haldia and Patna-Varanasi;

(b) if so, the details thereof and revenue being generated through this inland water transportation in last two years;

(c) if not, whether Government has any plan to improve the infrastructure, so that the State generate revenue through this inland water transportation; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MUKUL ROY): (a) to (d) Patna-Haldia and Patna-Varanasi stretches in river Ganga are part of the Haldia to Allahabad stretch which has been declared as a National Waterway and the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) undertakes development and maintenance of Inland Waterways Transport infrastructure namely, navigation channel, navigation aids and terminals thereon to facilitate shipping and navigation. Utilization of this infrastructure depends on the requirements of the actual users. The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) is collecting user charges for berthing of vessels, pilotage, movement of over dimensional cargo, hiring of vessels, fees under Indo-Bangladesh protocol on