

growth rate at major ports, several initiatives have been taken in recent past. The Government of India has given the top priority to the Modernisation of ports, through:

- Construction of new berths/terminals.
- Various expansion/upgradation projects for berthing and dredging.
- Installation of new and modern equipment.
- Upgradation/replacement through higher capacity of cargo handling equipment.
- Mechanisation of cargo handling operations.
- Various computer aided system to encourage automation in port operation.
- Implementation of Web-based Port community system.

Inter-State water transport project

†423. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had sanctioned any inter State water transport project in Gandhi Sagar and Ban Sagar of Madhya Pradesh in the past years;

(b) if so, the ratio of contribution of Centre and States along with the details of the project;

(c) whether the entire amount in accordance to the need of the project has been released by Government; and

(d) the amount allocated separately for these projects during the year 2011-12?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MUKUL ROY): (a) and (b) Government had sanctioned two projects for development of Inland Water Transport (IWT) facilities in the Gandhi Sagar and Ban Sagar reservoirs in Madhya Pradesh during March 2006 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for IWT development. These were however not inter-State Water transport projects. The details of these projects are given in Statement (See below).

(c) and (d) The Government has not allocated the total sanctioned amount since the Government of Madhya Pradesh could not execute the projects as envisaged and also since this CSS has been discontinued from 1-4-2007. Accordingly, no amount has been provided for these projects in the year 2011-12 also.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Details of projects for Inland Water Transport development in Gandhi Sagar reservoir and Ban Sagar reservoir in Madhya Pradesh

(Amount in lakh Rupees)

Sl. No.	Name of Project	Sanc- tioned cost	Central share (90%)	State share (10%)	Funds released by Union Govt.	Main components of the project
1.	Development of inland water transport in Chambal river at Gandhi Sagar reservoir in Madhya Pradesh	387.00	348.30	38.70	76.73	Construction of jetties at 12 locations, booking office, waiting hall, strengthening of approach road, navigational aids, geo technical investigation etc.
2.	Development of inland water transport in Sone river at Ban Sagar reservoir in Madhya Pradesh	415.00	373.50	41.50	83.00	Construction of jetties at 13 locations, booking office, waiting hall, strengthening of approach road, navigational aids, geo technical investigation.

Reforms in DG-Shipping's decision making process

424. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated a series of reforms in the Directorate General of Shipping to de-centralise a wide variety of simple and routine decision making;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government is aware that small entrepreneurs have to go to Mumbai for petty matters;

(c) in what way Government would empower the local Mercantile Marine Department (MMD) surveyors to do their work; and

(d) the other steps that would be taken to improve the functioning of the DG-Shipping with special emphasis on coastal shipping and fisheries?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN): (a) In the D.G. Shipping reformatory steps like a green channel approach for granting approvals/clearance have been introduced, by which the decision making process is shortened and decentralized.

(b) In the modern communication era, where electronic communication is readily available, small entrepreneurs need not visit Mumbai for petty matters.