

Inland Water Transport

2422. SHRI SALIM ANSARI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

- (a) whether Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has stepped in to fast track the development and use of Inland Water Transport (IWT);
- (b) if so, the complete details in this regard;
- (c) whether PMO has asked the various Ministries and PSUs to expeditiously provide long term cargo commitment for transportation of goods; and
- (d) if so, the complete details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G. K. VASAN) : (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. In the backdrop of award of work by NTPC Ltd. for transportation of 3 million tonnes per year of coal to Farakka thermal power plant for a period of 7 years by Inland Water Transport (IWT) mode, a meeting was held in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) on 24.01.2012 to identify more projects for transportation of cargo by IWT mode. Some of the Projects/agencies that were identified for further examination in this regard are as follows :-

- (i) Long term cargo commitment by NTPC Ltd. for 3 million tonnes per year of coal for Barh Thermal Power Station (TPS) and 1.5 million tonnes per year of coal for Bongaigaon TPS.
- (ii) Long term cargo commitment by Food Corporation of India (FCI) for transportation of foodgrains to Tripura and Assam.
- (iii) Possible identification and commitment of cargo by ONGC and Oil India Ltd.
- (iv) Exploring the possibility of committing container cargo by CONCOR Ltd.
- (v) Long term cargo commitment by fertilizer companies.

GBL of Mumbai Port

2423. SHRI N.K. SINGH : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

- (a) whether it is a fact that in Mumbai Port, allotment of storage area in sheds where General Bye-Laws (GBL) is applicable, can create tenancy rights for an allottee;
- (b) if so, the details of such cases where tenancy rights have been claimed in last six years;
- (c) whether GBL of Mumbai Port provide for allotment of storage areas through tendering and whether such areas are meant only for storage of pre-shipment export or customs cleared cargo through Mumbai Port; and

(d) whether there is prohibition for storage of domestic cargo, not exported or imported through Mumbai Port, in such areas?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. Storage areas covered under General Bye-Laws (GBL) are used for storage of pre-shipment export cargo, Customs cleared cargo through Mumbai Port and Domestic cargo received by rail, on recovery of charges under general bye laws.

(d) No, Sir.

Setting up of Major Ports and Ship Building Yards

2424. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has written to all the coastal States for identifying and setting up major ports, ship building yards or projects comprising thereof;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether above step is in view to meet the unabated increase in the cargo handling facilities;

(d) the status of all the minor ports that are proposed to be set up on the East Coast Zone *inter-alia* indicating the road-connectivity of all these ports with the National Highways in the country;

(e) the action plan to improve the efficiency of Government run ports in the country; and

(f) the estimate of growth of traffic both in the major and minor ports in the country in the next 10 years period, *inter-alia* indicating the action plan of Government to handle such amount of traffic?

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

(b) The Government of India has requested all Coastal States in the Country to explore the possibility of setting up a new Major Port or a new Ship Building Yard or a composite Port-cum-Ship building yard in their States and submit a comprehensive proposal to the Ministry of Shipping.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As per Indian Ports Act, 1908, the development of non-major ports (Minor Ports) vest with the respective State Governments.