

(c) and (d) The details of the progress made is as follows:-

(i) For construction of exclusive berths for coastal vessels, the Government has launched a scheme for providing financial assistance up to 75% of the cost subject to maximum of ₹ 25 crores is in operation. Under the scheme till date 5 major ports have been provided financial assistance of ₹ 69.9 crores. (ii) To provide thrust in the transportation of automobile cargo through waterways, cabotage has been relaxed for Roll-on-Roll-off vessels, Hybrid Roll-On-Roll-Off, RO-RO-cum-Passenger, Pure Car Carriers, Pure Car and Truck Carriers etc. (iii) As part of the National Perspective Plan of Sagarmala Programme, coastal shipping potential of more than 80 MMTPA of coal has been identified. This potential is for despatch of coal from the mines of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited in Odisha to the coastal power plants in Southern and Western Maritime States of the country using the rail-sea-rail route. An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) was constituted on 14th March, 2016 to develop a strategy and implementation roadmap for the coastal shipping of coal and other commodities/products.

#### **Mechanisation of East Quay Berths at Paradip port**

1642. SHRI BISHNU CHARAN DAS: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the status of mechanisation of East Quay (EQ) Berths-1, 2 and 3 at Paradip Port on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis under Public Private Partnership (PPP) model; and

(b) the details of benefits of the project and the expected time-frame of its completion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) A Letter of Award (LOA) has been issued for the project. In view of a writ petition filed in Hon'ble High Court of Odisha, the matter is subjudice in the Hon'ble High Court of Odisha.

#### **Improving operational efficiency and coast reduction by SCI**

1643. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) is considering to buy fuel efficient ships replacing the old stocks;

(b) whether SCI has a fleet of 69 vessels, of which 17 are bulk carriers, 16 crude oil tankers and 14 product tankers and most of these are old;