

Modernisation of port sector

2440. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has put in place a roadmap to modernize revamp and overhaul the port sector of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what other measures Government has initiated or propose to initiate to make Indian ports world class?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Modernisation of ports is a continuous process through construction and mechanisation of berths, installation of state of the art equipment and expansion of port capacity through creation of new ports. Government of India engaged a reputed benchmarking consultant to suggest various initiatives for improvement of performance of Major Ports. Some of the key initiatives for improving the efficiency of Major Ports are:-

- Better yard side planning
- Reduce ship change over time and Mechanization of berths
- Installation of higher capacity shore crane
- Introduction of twin lifting crane at Container Terminal
- Improvement in shift change process to minimize productivity losses
- Redesign operator incentive scheme
- Reducing Turn Around Time of ships by improving the rail rake monitoring system
- Reduction of delay at check points for containers, moving by roads.

Status of new inland waterways

2441. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) the operational status of 106 new inland waterways;
- (b) whether an assessment study has been/would be conducted to ascertain the level of pollution these inland waterways would cause;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the area of forest land needed to operationalise these inland waterways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) Under the National Waterways Act, 2016, 111 inland waterways, have been declared as National Waterways (NWs) including the five existing NWs. Out of these 111 NWs, the following six waterways are operational:—

- (i) NW-1: Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly River System (Allahabad-Haldia)
- (ii) NW-2: River Brahmaputra
- (iii) NW-3: West Coast Canal (Kottapuram-Kollam) along with Udyogmandal and Champakara Canals.
- (iv) NW-68: Mandovi.
- (v) NW-97: Sundarbans Waterways.
- (vi) NW-111: Zuari.

(b) and (c) Inland Water Transport (IWT) is recognized world-wide as a cost effective and environmental friendly mode of transport when compared to road and rail networks. In a preliminary report received from Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute (CIFRI) on Impact Analysis on Ecology, Flora and Fauna including fish and fisheries due to movement of barges carrying coal through National Waterway-1 between Bay of Bengal to National Thermal Power Plant (NTPC) at Farakka, no adverse impact on flora and fauna in the river has been indicated due to movement of barges.

(d) The requirement of forest land for terminal location and logistic operations will be known after completion of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of the feasible NWs located in forest areas.

New ports under Sagarmala programme

2442. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of "Sagarmala" in terms of new ports proposed or grounded or under implementation or waiting financial clearances;

(b) whether Government would take part of equity in private ports under Sagarmala programme;

(c) if so, the details thereof, including investment proposed by Government and time-span;