connectivity projects and Indian Port Rail Corporation Limited (IPRCL) has identified twenty six last mile rail connectivity projects for implementation. Three Multimodal terminals at Varanasi, Sahibganj and Haldia have been taken up for development by Inland Waterways Authority of India under Jal Marg Vikas Project in National Waterway-1. Indian Railways has taken up 36 works totaling 4602 kms. worth over ₹35000 crores in the Eastern Coastal Region and 19 works totaling 2454 Kms. costing over ₹ 15000 crores in the Western Coast region. These works will facilitate further development and strengthening of multimodal transport network.

Establishment of a port at Dugarajapatnam

2860. DR. K.V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has constituted a Committee to examine the feasibility of establishing major port at Dugarajapatnam of Andhra Pradesh as per AP Reorganization Act;
 - (b) whether the Committee has submitted its report; and
 - (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) Ministry of Shipping had constituted a Technical Committee on 17.10.2011 to identify a site from the locations proposed by Government of Andhra Pradesh to develop another Major Port-cum-shipbuilding centre in the State of Andhra Pradesh. The Committee submitted its report in April, 2012. This was done prior to enactment of A.P. Reorganization Act.

(b) and (c) After examination of the report submitted by the Committee, the Government decided to commission a Techno-Economic Feasibility Report for establishing a new Major Port at Dugarajapatnam in Andhra Pradesh. The decision to set up a Major Port through the PPP process at Dugarajapatnam was based on the commitment given by the erstwhile Government of Andhra Pradesh that the cost of land, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R&R) and external infrastructure cost would be borne by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh. The State Government subsequently expressed inability to fulfil this commitment. NITI Aayog is examining the proposal to evolve a most suitable option in consultation with Ministry of Shipping, Ministry of Finance and State Government of Andhra Pradesh.