

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 124
ANSWERED ON- 19/07/2021

INDIAN PORTS AMENDMENT BILL

124. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note of the uproar over the proposed Indian Ports Amendment Bill to be introduced in the Parliament;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for the objections being raised on the issue;
- (d) whether it is a fact that the bill is encroaching upon the powers of State Governments; and
- (e) the steps being taken by Government to modify the bill for it smooth passing in the Parliament?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
(SHRI SHANTANU THAKUR)

(a) to (e) Ministry has initiated action to repeal the Indian Port Act 1908 and to introduce a contemporaneous, modern and dynamic legislation, namely, the Indian Ports Bill, 2021 to enable planned and structured growth and development of Ports in order to ensure optimum utilization of the Indian Coastline and effective administration, control and management of Ports. The Bill is aimed at synergy between Coastal States and Centre through collaborative effort through integrated approach for development of Ports

In the course of new legislation, the Ministry had circulated the draft Indian Ports Bill 2020 for seeking inputs from all stakeholders viz. State Governments, State Maritime Boards, major ports, General Public etc. The feedback/ suggestions on the draft Indian Ports Bill, 2020 as received from the concerned stakeholders were carefully examined by this Ministry and suitably incorporated in the draft Indian Ports Bill, 2021. The present version of the Indian Ports Bill, 2021 has also been circulated to all stakeholders for comments. Comments of some of the State Government is still awaited. The proposed legislation is still under consultative stage.
