

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1340
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28.07.2022

CONSTRUCTION OF CHABAHAR PORT

1340. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA:

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

- (a) the total burden on Government exchequer in construction of the Chabahar port and the period in which it will be recovered;
- (b) the monetary and non-monetary benefits that Government plans to reap from the project; and
- (c) the deadlines of various stages in the construction of the port?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) to (c) During the visit of the Prime Minister to Iran in May 2016, a Trilateral Agreement to establish the International Transport and Transit Corridor (Chabahar Agreement) was signed by India, Iran and Afghanistan. India is participating in the development of the first phase of the Shahid Beheshti Terminal, Chabahar Port in cooperation with the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

2. India has committed total grant assistance of USD 85 Million and a credit facility of USD 150 Million for the development of Shahid Beheshti Terminal, Chabahar Port. As part of our commitment towards infrastructure development of the Shahid Beheshti Terminal, Chabahar Port, India has supplied 06 Mobile Harbour Cranes (two 140 tons and four 100 tons capacity) and other equipment worth USD 25 Million.

3. The Indian company, India Ports Global Limited (IPGL), through its wholly owned subsidiary, India Ports Global Chabahar Free Zone (IPGCFZ), took over the operations of the Chabahar Port w.e.f. 24.12.2018. Since then, it has handled 215 vessels, 16,000 TEUs (Twenty-foot Equivalent Units) and 4 million tons of bulk and general cargo.

4. The Chabahar Port has provided much needed sea-access to the landlocked countries of the region, including Afghanistan and emerged as a commercial transit hub for the region. It is a more economical and stable route for landlocked countries of the region to reach India and the global market. Till date, a total of 2.5 million tons of wheat and two thousand tons of pulses has been trans-shipped from India to Afghanistan through Chabahar Port.

5. The port has also facilitated the supply of humanitarian assistance, especially during the COVID-19 pandemic. India has utilized the Chabahar port to ship 75,000 MTs of wheat as humanitarian food assistance to Afghanistan in 2020. In 2021, India supplied 40,000 litres of environment friendly pesticide to Iran to fight locust menace. The port has also been utilized by the Central Asian Countries to access the global market and has increased trade and economic opportunities for the traders of the region.
