

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 3178
ANSWERED ON 28/03/2023

LACK OF DREDGING SUBSIDIES FOR PORTS

3178. DR. PRASHANTA NANDA:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the glaring lack of dredging subsidies for ports, particularly the Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Port, Kolkata (SMPK);
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether a policy measure shall be introduced to cost-benefit analysis, as per the recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

(a)&(b) Central Government is providing financial assistance to the Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port Authority (SMPA), Kolkata, to meet the cost of dredging and river maintenance from 1968-69 till date. The funds released to SMPA as dredging subsidy for last five years is as under:-

Financial Year	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Fund Released (Rs. in crore)	155.00	100.00	203.82	183.00	175.59

(c)&(d) The Ministry has formulated Revised Dredging Guidelines for Major Ports in the year 2021. All dredging contracts are awarded in line with these guidelines. The cost benefit analysis is done by all Major Ports based on different scientific and technical studies before carrying out dredging activities in the Major Ports.
