

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF TOURISM

RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.151
ANSWERED ON 03.08.2023

CONSTRUCTION OF CRUISE BERTH IN OUTER HARBOR

151 SHRI V.VIJAYASAI REDDY:

Will the Minister of **TOURISM** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that construction of Cruise Berth in Outer Harbor of Visakhapatnam Port was sanctioned five years ago with an estimated expenditure of nearly ₹ 40 crore ;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the project is yet to be completed and not even 50 per cent of amount has been utilized by Government;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) by when the above project is going to be completed?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM

(SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.151 ANSWERED ON 03.08.2023 REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF CRUISE BERTH IN OUTER HARBOR.

(a) to (d): On request from the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, a proposal for part funding of Development of Cruise-Cum Cargo Terminal at channel berth in outer harbour of Visakhapatnam Port by the Vishakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) was approved by the Ministry of Tourism (MoT) in 2018-19.

The total approved project cost as given by Vishakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) was Rs.77 crore of which 50 percent funding (i.e. Rs.38.50 crore) was to be done by the Ministry of Tourism and the remaining expenditure was to be met by Vishakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) from their internal resources. Out of the approved MoT funding of Rs.38.50 crore, Rs.29.91 crore (which is 77.6 percent of the approved funding) has already been released. This has been fully utilised by Vishakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT).

For part funding of the project of Vishakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT), Ministry of Tourism Sanctioned financial assistance in December 2018. Subsequently, VPT applied for Environment clearance. State Environment Impact Assessment Authority (SEIAA) approved the Terms of Reference (ToR) with condition to obtain No Objection Certificate (NOC) from Indian Navy in June, 2019. The No-objection Certificate from Indian NAVY was received in July 2021. Environmental Clearance for the project was issued by SEIAA in October 2021.

In the meantime, Covid-19 (1st wave) Lock down was also imposed by Government from March 2020 and again partial restrictions was imposed due to Covid-19 (2nd wave) upto April, 2021

Tender (both berth and terminal building) on Engineering Procurement and Construction mode was processed in September, 2021. But only single unqualified bidder participated. Hence, it was cancelled as per the norms and the work was split in two packages i.e., (1) Construction of Cruise Berth and (2) Construction of Cruise Terminal Building. Finally, the work commenced from 2nd week of February, 2022.

The project has been closely monitored in the Ministry of Tourism and major works like berth construction, cruise building, structural work etc have been completed. The project is ready for inauguration after completion of all major components.
