

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 180
ANSWERED ON 05.12.2023

ADANI GROUP'S SHIPPING MONOPOLY

180. SMT. PRIYANKA CHATURVEDI:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that, while the Union Government-controlled ports had an average turnaround time of around two days, the turn around time of ships is just 0.7 days in Adani controlled ports, if so, the reasons therefor for such delay in the Government-controlled ports; and
- (b) whether Government is aware of the fact that the Adani Group controls over a quarter of all cargo passing through the country's ports and controls as many as fourteen ports and terminals, if so, the action taken by Government to prevent monopoly of shipping in Adani's Group?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) There are 12 Major Ports under the administrative control of the Government of India. During the year 2022-23, the total cargo handled by the Indian Ports was 1445.96 Million tonnes, out of which 795 million tonnes was handled by the Major Ports. The overall Container Vessel Turn Around Time (TAT) of Major Ports in the year 2022-23 was 1.18 days. The Container Vessel Turn Around Time (TAT) of Jawaharlal Nehru Port during FY 2022-23 was 1.03 days.

The policy reforms in the Ports, Shipping and Waterways sector have focused on the creation of a level playing field through open competition and transparent auction methodology which allows all market players to freely compete for terminals, berths, facilities etc. under the domain of Central Government and Major Port Authorities Act, 2021. Specifically, Model Concessionaire Agreement, 2021 provides equal opportunities to all stakeholders through transparent bidding process. Furthermore, 100% FDI in the sector has opened the opportunities for investments by national and international market forces.

As of FY2023, the Major Ports account for 55% of the cargo handled in the country, and thus remain a dominant player in the sector.
