

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 956
ANSWERED ON 03.12.2024

PLANS TO DEVELOP GOA AS CARGO AND CRUISE HUB

956. SHRI SADANAND MHALU SHET TANAVADE:

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

- (a) whether the Central Government, in coordination with State Government of Goa, has formulated any plans to develop Goa as a major cargo and cruise hub on the West coast of the nation;
- (b) the specific initiatives and infrastructure developments proposed or underway to support Goa's potential as strategic cargo and cruise destination;
- (c) the projected financial outlay and timeline for these developments, along with any public-private partnerships or foreign investments involved in the projects; and
- (d) the expected economic impact of such developments on local employment, tourism and trade in Goa?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d) Yes, the Central Government, in coordination with the State Government of Goa, is developing Goa as a major cargo and cruise destination. Under the Sagarmala Scheme, an international and domestic cruise terminal, along with a ferry terminal, has been developed at Goa.

The Central Government has developed an International and Domestic Cruise Terminal, along with a Ferry Terminal at Mormugao Port, Goa, with an estimated project cost of Rs. 101.72 crores. The project is scheduled for completion by March 2025. Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is also preparing DPRs for 09 coastal jetties in Goa to boost cargo volume, reduce traffic, and improve inland transport. Efforts to increase cargo include building new terminals, expanding existing ones, enhancing connectivity, upgrading equipment, and promoting coastal shipping through subsidies and reduced charges. To further boost cruise activities, the Central Government launched the Cruise Bharat Mission in 2024.

The expected economic impacts of such development like creating jobs in transportation, hospitality, retail, and tourism, boosting local business revenue. It also improves local connectivity through enhanced inland waterway services, including ferry and RoRo (Roll-on/Roll-off) services, enabled by integrated cruise circuits.
