

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1440**  
ANSWERED ON 11.03.2025

**TARGET FOR EXPANDING PORT CAPACITY IN TAMIL NADU**

1440. SHRI R. DHARMAR:

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

- (a) the current capacity of major ports in the country including Tamil Nadu and the targets set for expanding port capacity in the next five years;
- (b) the steps being taken by Government to increase handling capacity of ports, particularly in view of rising trade and global shipping demand;
- (c) whether any new ports are being developed or existing ports are being expanded, and if so, the details thereof, including their expected completion dates; and
- (d) whether Government has a specific plan to enhance the capacity for handling containers, bulk cargo and liquid cargo, and the measures being taken to improve port efficiency and reduce congestion?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) The aggregate cargo handling capacity of the Major Ports was 1,629.86 Million Tonnes Per Annum (MTPA) as on 31.03.2024 including the three Major Ports in Tamil Nadu. As envisaged in the Maritime India Vision 2030, the capacity of Major Ports in the country is targeted to increase to around 2200 MTPA by 2030.

(b) to (d) New Vadhvan Port in Maharashtra with container handling capacity of 23.2 Million TEUs per annum, Outer Harbour Project at V.O. Chidambaranar Port in Tamil Nadu with container handling capacity of 4 Million TEUs per annum, Container Terminal Development project at Tuna Tekra at Deendayal Port in Gujarat with container handling capacity of 2.19 Million TEUs per annum and Western Dock Project at Paradip Port in Odisha with bulk cargo handling capacity of 30 MTPA are at various stages of implementation. Infrastructure development and capacity augmentation of Major Ports is a continuous process. It involves construction of new berths and terminals, mechanization of existing berths and terminals, capital dredging for increasing drafts for attracting larger vessels, development of road, rail and waterways connectivity etc. Further, Ministry has undertaken several initiatives such as elimination of manual Forms, facilitation of Direct Port Delivery & Entry, Installation of Container Scanners, E-delivery orders/ invoice/payments, RFID based Gate-automation System, National Logistic Portal-Marine etc. to improve port efficiency and reduce congestion.

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