GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 950
ANSWERED ON 11.02.2025

ENHANCING PORT EFFICIENCY

950. SHRI K.R.N. RAJESHKUMAR:

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

(a) whether Government is aware of the increasing congestion and delays at major Indian ports, if so, the steps taken to address these issues and improve port efficiency;
(b) whether there are plans to expand the capacity of major ports to handle increasedcargo volumes; and
(c) the specific measures taken to modernize port infrastructure and equipment?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) During the year 2023-24, the Major Ports handled total cargo traffic of 820 million tonnes against a combined capacity of 1,630 million tonnes per annum, resulting in approximately 50% capacity utilization. From 2013-14 to 2023-24, the average turnaround time of Major Ports has decreased by an impressive 49%, while the average Output per Ship Berth Day has seen a significant rise of 52% during the same period.India's logistics performance has significantly improved, rising to 38thposition in the 2023 World Bank's Logistics Performance Index (LPI), up from 54thin 2014. This progress is attributed to factors like reduced port dwell times, faster turnaround times and significant advancements in international shipment and delivery timeliness rankings.

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, Vadhavan Port in Maharashtra has been approved to be developed as the mega container port in the country catering the requirement of handling new generation mega size container vessels.

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