

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2244

TO BE ANSWERED ON 8th MARCH, 2018

CHABAHAR PORT

2244. SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:
SHRI PINAKI MISRA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

पोत परिवहन मंत्री

- (a) whether operationalisation of the Chabahar port in Iran is likely to prove a gateway to golden opportunities to boost trade and business for India and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the extent to which the operationalisation of this port is likely to contribute to bilateral and regional trade and economic development;
- (c) the details of countries with whom India is likely to develop trade and business along with the quantum thereof in view of operationalisation of the said port;
- (d) the details of products that are expected to get boost for exports with the commissioning of the Chabahar port; and
- (e) whether any connectivity event involving all the stakeholders is proposed to be organised at Chabahar and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a)&(b): Yes, Madam. The location of the Chabahar Port on the south-eastern coast of Iran is expected to open up greater opportunities for promotion of trade and commerce, especially from the ports along India's western coast, with Iran, Afghanistan, Central Asia and beyond.

India's participation in the development of Chabahar Port will provide India an alternative and reliable access route into Afghanistan utilizing India's earlier investment in Zaranj-Delaram road built in Afghanistan, and also a reliable and more direct sea-road access route into Central Asian Region.

(c) The Chabahar port will provide opportunity to trade with Central Asian countries like Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan etc. The commencement of operation in Chabahar port and implementation of Trilateral Transit Agreement will also greatly enhance India's accessibility to land locked Afghanistan where India is immensely contributing to its reconstruction and development. Chabahar Port has the potential to become a regional transit hub for Afghanistan and eastern Central Asian Countries. It is expected that volume of trade will increase substantially on the commencement of operation at Shahid – Beheshti Chabahar Port.

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- (d) Products that are expected to get boost for export country / region wise are as under:

Iran: Rice, finished metal products (steel, aluminium, ferro- manganese), Steel rails, Soyabeans and flour, seeds (mustard, cotton etc.), tea leaf, Misc. types of paper, Cloth & fabrics, Pharma products.

Afghanistan: Sugar, milk and bakery products, medical apparatus, medicines, grain (rice and wheat), fabrics (woven, synthetic, polyester)

CIS Countries: Machinery, food stuff, electrical equipment, Cotton fabric

- (e) Yes, Madam. A business promotion event with the objective of showcasing the economic opportunities offered by the Chabahar Port, is proposed to be organized at Chabahar by Iran.
