GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1527

ANSWERED ON 10.02.2023

DEVELOPED TRANSHIPMENT HUBS

1527. SHRI BHOLA SINGH:

Will the Minister of PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS be pleased to state: पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Ports in Kochi and Vizinjam in Kerala as well as Galathea Bay in Andaman Nicobar Islands are shortlisted in first round to be developed as transhipment hubs for better sea connectivity;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether nearly 75 per cent of India's Transhipment cargo is handled at ports outside the country;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the corrective steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

- (a)& (b) Presently, three proposals namely developing Galathea Bay at Great Nicobar Islands, development of Cochin Port into Transshipment facility have been taken up by the Government of India. This apart, the State Government of Kerala in association with Private Investor and partial financial support from the Ministry of Finance (Government of India) is also developing a Transshipment project at Vizhinjam in Kerala.
- (c) to (e) Currently, nearly 75% of India's transshipped cargo is handled at ports outside India including Ports of Colombo, Singapore and Klang. The Government has taken up above three proposed transshipment projects with the aim to increase the percentage of Indian cargo transshipment handled by Indian Ports. This would help save on forex, being lost on account of transshipment at foreign Ports, and encourage foreign direct investment. Further, such development would increase economic activity at other Indian Ports, enhance logistics infrastructure and thus, operational efficiencies, employment generation, and increased revenue share.
