

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 4952
ANSWERED ON 31/03/2023

MARINE TRAFFIC AT COASTAL REGION

4952. SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:

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

- (a) whether some ports of India are incapable of handling the increasing marine traffic in the coastal regions of the country especially in Gujarat;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to control the increasing marine traffic;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to set up new ports; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) Major Ports in India has capacity to handle increasing marine traffic in coastal regions of the country. Major Ports in the country have handled marine cargo traffic of 720.05 MTPA against capacity of 1597.59 MTPA in 2021-22. All Ports in Gujarat have capacity to handle 819.10 MTPA of cargo whereas traffic handled was 532.49 MTPA during 2021-22.

(b) Infrastructure development and capacity augmentation of Major Ports is one of the measures to handle growth expected in marine traffic. It involves construction of new berths and terminals, mechanization of existing berths and terminals, capital dredging for deepening of drafts for attracting larger vessels, development of road and rail connectivity etc. The government has already given a strong push to port modernisation, mechanisation and digitalisation, with a number of ease of doing business initiatives. Port modernisation includes the introduction of web-based e-forms and direct port delivery, installation of container scanners and radio frequency identification-based systems for gate automation, launch of a single window interface for facilitating trade and integration of more seaports with the Port Community System (PCS).

(c) and (d) The power for establishment of new Major Ports and administrative control of Major Ports vests with the Central Government. Establishment and administrative control of Non-Major Ports are within the purview of respective State Governments through State Maritime Boards. Government of India has accorded in-principle approval for development of Major Port at Vadhavan in Maharashtra on landlord port development model due to its natural advantages and growing requirement of import export trade of the country. Galathea Bay in Great Nicobar Island of Andaman & Nicobar Islands has also been identified for development of an International Container Transshipment Terminal due to its strategic location.
