

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1523
ANSWERED ON 28.07.2023

CAPACITY OF MAJOR PORTS

1523. SHRI GNANATHIRAVIAM S.:

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

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जल मार्गमंत्री

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal for modernisation and increasing the capacity of major ports along with the cargo handling capacity in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is considering to provide road and rail connectivity to ports for the enhancement of cargo handling capacity during the next three years; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken/proposed to be taken for bringing more investments in shipping industry's development?

ANSWER

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

(a) Infrastructure development in the Port Sector is a continuous process. The process inter-alia involves the construction of new berths and terminals, mechanization of existing berths and terminals, capital dredging for deepening drafts for attracting large vessels in port channels, development of road and rail connectivity etc., help in increasing the capacity of Major Ports. As a result, the cargo handling capacity of the Major Ports has been steadily going up. The cargo handling capacity of Major Ports as on 31.03.2023 is 1617 MTPA, which is sufficient to handle the existing cargo traffic at the Major ports.

(b)&(c) Under PM Gati Shakti, DPIIT prepared a Comprehensive Port Connectivity Plan (CPCP) in consultation with Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways and State Maritime Boards in September, 2022. CPCP incorporates 298 connectivity projects of which 191 projects (101 road and 90 rail). These projects are aimed at enhancing last mile and hinterland connectivity of ports, which in turn will enhance the port efficiency, enabling the ports to handle more cargo.

These road and rail infrastructure gap projects are primarily undertaken by the Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Road Transport & Highways on a priority.
