

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2082
ANSWERED ON 15.12.2023

PASSENGER SHIP TO SRI LANKA

2082. SHRI M. SELVARAJ:

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

पत्तन,पोतपरिवहनऔरजलमार्गमंत्री

- (a) whether one passenger ship service has been launched on 14.10.2023 from Nagapattinam to Kangesan Port in Sri Lanka, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has any plan to ply such passenger ships regularly from Nagapattinam in future, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to improve and develop other infrastructure in the Nagapattinam Port, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a)& (b) Yes, Sir. Passenger ferry service was launched on 14th October, 2023 between Nagapattinam, India and Kankesanthurai, Sri Lanka. To attract more operators specially for all weather services, the Shipping Corporation of India, a CPSU under this Ministry, has issued notice inviting Expression of Interest to select operator(s).

(c) & (d) On the request of Tamil Nadu Maritime Board, the Ministry of External Affairs has granted ₹ 8 crore for upgrading the facilities at Nagapattinam Port.
