

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1171**  
ANSWERED ON 09.02.2024

**DEVELOPMENT OF CRUISE SERVICES**

1171. SHRI ARVIND GANPAT SAWANT:

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

**पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री**

- (a) whether the Government has initiated action for development of Cruise services in various Ports in the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal for development of ports in the country and if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) whether any plan has been submitted for the development of Mumbai Port along with the initiatives that have been taken by the Government to develop the Port of MbPT to generate more revenue?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) The action taken by the Government for development of cruise services in various ports of the Country are as below:-
  - (i) For berthing, cruise vessel is given priority over cargo vessel.
  - (ii) Rationalised cruise tariff has been introduced.
    - (a) *Port charges are recovered @ \$0.085/GRT (fixed rate) and a nominal passenger head tax of \$ 6 for first 12 hours of stay at berth.*
    - (b) *Cruise ships are provided discounts ranging from 10% to 30% based on volume of their calls.*
  - (iii) Ousting charges have been removed to attract cruise vessels.
  - (iv) E-Visa and on-arrival visa facilities have been extended.
  - (v) Single e-Landing Card has been introduced which is valid for all ports in cruise itinerary.
  - (vi) Cabotage has been waived for foreign cruise vessels. This relaxation allows foreign cruise ship to transport Indian nationals from one Indian Port to another Indian Port during its domestic leg.

- (vii) In order to promote tourism, conditional IGST exemption has been approved for foreign going vessel when it converts to coastal run, subject to its reconversion to foreign going vessel within six months.
- (viii) During Global Maritime India Summit, October, 2023 sessions on 'Embark on a voyage to attract 50 million Cruise Passengers in India by 2047' and a 'Roundtable with Cruise lines' were organized with participation of stakeholders.

(b) Seven Major Ports, namely, Mumbai (Maharashtra), Mormugao (Goa), New Mangalore (Karnataka), Cochin (Kerala), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) and Syama Prasad Mookerjee (West Bengal) have operational cruise terminals.

(c) Mumbai Port Authority (MbPA) has initiated development of Mumbai International Cruise Terminal (MICT) under Public Private Partnership with an estimated cost of Rs. 555 Crore.

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