

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3332  
ANSWERED ON 17/12/2021

**HANDLING OF SHIPPED ITEMS**

3332. SHRI GURJEET SINGH AUJLA:

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

**पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री**

- (a) the provision under which the Major Port Authorities Act, 2021 allows port handlers/stakeholders to refuse handling of shipped items from West Asia;
- (b) whether port handlers are allowed to refuse handling of items shipped from Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan amidst recent seizure of drugs consignment from port(s) and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any investigations have been conducted on the shipments of drugs, if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (d) the manner in which the Government compensate the losses originating from the ban imposed on Iranian shipments coming to Indian port(s); and
- (e) the methods adopted for the reparations in costs to said countries on whom ban is imposed by handler on account of losses on import bills and defaulting on Balance of Payments?

**ANSWER**

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

(a)&(b) The Major Port Authorities Act, 2021 provides for regulation, operation and planning of Major Ports of Chennai, Cochin, Deendayal (Kandla), Jawaharlal Nehru (Nhava Sheva), Kolkata, Mormugao, Mumbai, New Mangalore, Paradip, V.O.Chidambaranar (Tuticorin) and Vishakhapatnam. The legislation does not regulate the choice of port handlers / stakeholders in handling shipped items under any circumstances and / or from any nation.

(c) There has been no shipments of drugs in the Major Ports under the administrative control of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways warranting any investigation.

(d)&(e) The Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways has not imposed any ban on shipments coming to Indian port(s) from West Asia. Therefore, the question of compensation / reparation etc. of any loss does not arise.

\*\*\*\*\*