

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 502
ANSWERED ON 04/02/2022

REVIVAL OF KOLKATA PORT

502. SHRI SISIR KUMAR ADHIKARI:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to revive Kolkata Port, now known as Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port (SPMP) and the action plan formulated therefor;
- (b) whether it is a fact that due to silt the ports of SPMP are going to high and will dry within few years;
- (c) if so, the details of suggestions received from various stakeholders along with the action taken thereon; and
- (d) whether the crisis has built up over the years due to failure of DCI to deploy enough dredgers and delay in clearing the River Regulatory Scheme meant for improving the navigability of river Ganga?

ANSWER

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

- (a) The Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port (SPMP), Kolkata is thriving and vibrant Port and its performance is on the up-swing;
- (b) The Government has engaged National Technology Centre for Ports, Waterways and Coasts (NTCPWC), IIT Madras for long and short term study of the river system leading upto SPMP. NTCPWC has made no such forecast for the ports of SPMP drying up within few years;
- (c) Regular interaction with stakeholders are held and suggestions acted upon.

In order to further improve the performance of SPMP several initiatives have been taken as under:-

- (i) Literage operation of cape sized vessels in the deep water anchorages, within port limit;

- (ii) Ship-to-Ship operation of LPG vessels in the deep water anchorages;
 - (iii) Mechanisation of Jetties and Berths both at Kolkata Dock System & Haldia Dock System of SMPK;
 - (iv) Outsourcing of Khidderpore Docks-I (West) through PPP mode for better productivity;
 - (v) Construction of Outer Terminal-2 at Haldia Dock Complex for handling of Liquid Bulk;
 - (vi) Liquid Cargo Handling facility at Shalukkhali;
 - (vii) Improvement of Road Connectivity at Kolkata Dock System.
- (d) The problem of siltation and maintenance of adequate draft in the Hooghly river and Haldia Channel has been effectively managed by deploying optimum number of dredgers of Dredging Corporation of India and by adopting various river regulatory measures suggested by NTCPWC etc..
