

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2287
ANSWERED ON 29/07/2022

CONNECTING PORTS THROUGH ROAD AND RAIL PROJECTS

2287. SHRI ANUMULA REVANTH REDDY:
SHRI MAGUNTA SREENIVASULU REDDY:
SHRI P.V. MIDHUN REDDY:

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

- (a) the number of road and rail projects connecting ports to the mainland;
- (b) the number of ports having no railway or four lane road connectivity along with the number of all such project facing time and cost overrun;
- (c) whether the Government has considered conducting an environmental impact assessment before releasing funds for connectivity projects to avoid delays;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether the Government has identified logistical bottlenecks in the performance of all major and minor ports in the country;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (g) whether the Government has linked any private ports with major and minor ports for faster movement of goods and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) Under the Sagarmala Programme, there are 101 port-road connectivity projects, of which 19 are completed and 82 are in various stages of implementation and development under Ministry of Road Transport & Highways / NHAI, Major Ports, and State Governments. There are 90 port-rail connectivity projects of which 35 are completed and 55 are in various stages of implementation and development under Ministry of Railways / Indian Railways, Major Ports, and State Governments.

(b) Currently, there are 37 non-major ports which are handling cargo and not connected by 4 Lane Road or National Highway. There are 38 non-major ports which are handling cargo (excluding Andaman & Nicobar & Lakshadweep) and not connected by rail. Ministry has not received any request in reference of time and cost overrun for the connectivity projects funded under Sagarmala.

(c) & (d) Yes, the projects are required to obtain Environment/ Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) clearance from the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) and/or State Coastal Zone Management Authority (CZMA) as applicable as per the norms. As stipulated by MoEF&CC and CZMA, studies like Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environment Management Plan (EMP) are undertaken as a part of the development of the projects. Based on the studies for the project, requisite mitigation measures to protect the environment are undertaken.

(e) & (f) Yes, to improve the last mile connectivity and meet the future requirement of ports, Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPSW) in consultation with major ports and state agencies have identified around 80 rail and road connectivity projects and shared with Ministry of Railway (MoR) and Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH).

(g) The ports operated by private entities are connected to the major and non-major ports via the existing road network.
