

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 1882**  
ANSWERED ON – 02/08/2024

**STRATEGIC CONTAINER SHIPPING**

1882. SHRI HASMUKHBHAI SOMABHAI PATEL:

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

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) the details on the latest partnerships formed by the Government aiming to enhance trade links for regions in Northern, Western, and Central India with international markets;
- (b) the recent initiatives to establish a strategic container shipping hub in a significant location like Galathea Bay, Great Nicobar;
- (c) the details of the recent amount of traffic managed at Major Ports; and
- (d) the details about recent unveiling of the NLP Marine Port Health Organization (PHO) Module and its importance in maritime activities?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) Ministry is focusing on creating market enabling environment for trade. Ports act as gateways for International Trade. Ports are moving towards PPP model wherein the terminals / berths are operated by Private Operators who have experience in international terminal / berth operations. These concessionaires act as a link towards augmenting trade relations between hinterland and international market through shipping lines.
- (b) Under the Holistic Development Plan for Great Nicobar Islands of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways is entrusted with the responsibility of development of an International Container Transshipment Hub at Galathea Bay in Great Nicobar Islands.
- (c) The total traffic handled in Major Ports in FY 2023-24 is 819 million tonnes.
- (d) The Port Health Organisation (PHO) module under SAGAR SETU – National Logistics Portal (Marine) has been launched by the Ministry. PHO will now be used to grant permission to ships to enter or leave the ports through this module online which will bring in transparency, efficiency and Ease of Doing Business (EODB).

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