

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2031
ANSWERED ON 06.12.2024

CONNECTIVITY TO CUDDALORE PORT

2031. DR. M K VISHNU PRASAD:

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

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve road and rail connectivity to Cuddalore Port;
- (b) whether there are any proposals for enhancing logistics efficiency and reducing transportation costs for cargo moving through the said port and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the initiatives taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to promote trade and commerce through the said port;
- (d) whether there is any plan to establish a National Maritime University or a Central Government maritime college in Tamil Nadu particularly in Cuddalore; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Cuddalore is a port other than Major Port in the State of Tamil Nadu. Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways under Sagarmala Scheme has partially funded the project of development of Cuddalore port which includes breakwater, berth and dredging.

Govt. of Tamil Nadu has informed that the current demand at Cuddalore Port is modest and the existing infrastructure is adequate to meet the operational needs. With the objective of boosting cargo handling operations, Govt. of Tamil Nadu is in the process of selecting a port operator through tendering process for Marketing, Operation and Maintenance of Cuddalore Port.

Ministry of Railways has informed that Final Location Survey for rail connectivity between Cuddalore Port and Cuddalore Junction has been approved. However, final development depends on volume of cargo upon operationalisation of port. Further, Ministry of Road, Transport and Highways has included Cuddalore Port in the Port Connectivity Master Plan for enhancing port logistics and efficiency.

(d) & (e) Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways has already established Indian Maritime University (IMU), as a Central University, in Tamil Nadu which is headquartered at Chennai. The IMU Campus in Chennai also caters to Cuddalore which is around 150 Kms from Chennai on the same east coast.
