

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5712**  
ANSWERED ON 04.04.2025

**DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIC MEGA PORTS**

5712. SHRI NARESH GANPAT MHASKE:  
SHRI RAJESH VERMA:  
SMT. SHAMBHAVI:  
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:  
SHRI RAVINDRA DATTARAM WAIKAR:

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

**पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री**

- (a) the manner in which the Government's initiative to expand India's port capacity to 10,000 million tonnes per annum by 2047 is likely to contribute to the country's economic resurgence;
- (b) the specific measures being implemented to ensure that the development of strategic mega ports like Vadhavan and Galathea Bay enhances India's position as a global shipping hub;
- (c) whether the reduction in container dwell time and vessel turnaround time reflects the successes of Government policies in improving port efficiency, if so, the details thereof including plans for further improvement of the same;
- (d) the manner in which the focus on green hydrogen production at major ports is expected to drive investment and job creation in the maritime sector; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to address challenges in skilled labour availability and sustainable fuel adoption in shipbuilding and the manner in which these efforts align with India's ambition to become a leading global player?

**ANSWER**

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

- (a) The government's initiative to expand port capacity to 10,000 million tonnes by 2047 seeks to enhance trade efficiency by reducing logistics costs and minimizing ship turnaround times. This expansion will strengthen India's global exports by enabling faster, more cost-effective cargo handling and promote national economic growth through a more robust trade infrastructure.

(b) Government is developing mega ports such as Vadhavan, with a focus on strengthening infrastructure to accommodate larger vessels. Additionally, Galathea Bay is set to become a strategic port, enhancing connectivity between India and Southeast Asia. These initiatives are enhanced India's position in a global shipping hub.

(c) Decrease of container vessel turnaround time from 42 hours in FY13-14 to 30 hours in FY 23-24 at Indian ports highlights the success of government policies in improving port efficiency. In the future, automation, port expansion, and the integration of Artificial Intelligence and Internet of Things (AI and IoT) will be key to sustaining these gains and strengthening India's global trade position.

(d) To support the National Hydrogen Mission, three major ports in India have been designated as Green Hydrogen Hubs. These initiatives will lead to significant investments in electrolyzers, renewable energy systems, and storage facilities. As a result, they will create direct employment opportunities for skilled workers and generate indirect jobs in equipment manufacturing and logistics.

(e) To address skilled labour challenges, Government launched initiatives like the B.Tech. program in Naval Architecture & Shipbuilding at the Indian Maritime University and established the Centre of Excellence in Maritime & Shipbuilding. Additionally, this Ministry supports R&D in alternative fuels, while Cochin Shipyard leads in green shipbuilding, promoting eco-friendly vessels.

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