

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5735
ANSWERED ON 04.04.2025

INDIA AS TOP MARITIME NATION

5735. SHRI ARUN BHARTI:

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

पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) the specific initiatives the Government has outlined in the Maritime Vision 2047 to achieve the goal of becoming one of the top five maritime nations by 2047;
- (b) the manner in which the Government plans to enhance port handling capacity from 1,600 million metric tonnes to 10,000 million metric tonnes by 2047 along with the details of investments being allocated for this purpose;
- (c) whether the Ministry has the data of legislative reforms, aimed at boosting India's maritime capabilities, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the measures being implemented to promote sustainable practices within the maritime sector, including the development of green ports and clean-fuel shipbuilding; and
- (e) the manner in which the Government ensure that stakeholder consultations are effectively conducted to align national maritime policies with international best practices?

ANSWER

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

(a)& (b)The government's strategic initiatives seek to position the nation as a leading maritime power by expanding port capacity from about 2,600 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) to nearly 10,000 MTPA by 2047. Key to this strategy is developing new ports with deeper drafts, increasing draft of the existing ports, establishing port clusters and transshipment hubs, developing automated ports, increasing private sector involvement, and enhancing policy support.

(c) Central Government has introduced several legislative reforms to enhance India's maritime capabilities, including the Major Port Authorities Act, 2021, Marine Aids to Navigation Act, 2021, Inland Vessels Act, 2021, Relaxation of Cabotage Rules, 2018, Recycling of Ships Act, 2019, National Waterways Act, 2016, the Policy for the Award of Waterfront and Associated Land to Port-Dependent Industries (Captive Policy), 2016, and Guidelines for Dealing with Stressed Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Projects at Major Ports.

(d) Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPSW) has launched the Green Tug Transition Programme (GTTP) which aims to reduce carbon emissions and minimize environmental impact by encouraging adoption of environmentally sustainable tugboat operations. Additionally, Government has launched HaritSagar Guideline for Major Ports and HaritNauka guidelines for inland vessels which aim to promote the adoption of greener technologies.

(e) MoPSW aligns maritime policies with international best practices through high-level events like the Global Maritime India Summit, Sagarmathan, ChintanShivir, Post-Budget Industry Meets, and stakeholder consultations, fostering dialogue among policymakers, industry, and grassroots communities. Regular engagements with global maritime leaders and participation in international forums ensure that India's policies meet global standards, positioning the country as a key player in the maritime sector.
