

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.697
ANSWERED ON 07.02.2025

GLOBAL LEADER IN SHIPBUILDING

697. SHRI CHAMALA KIRAN KUMAR REDDY:
SMT. DK ARUNA:
SHRI EATALA RAJENDER:

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

पत्तन, पोतपरिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) whether the Government is taking steps to provide impetus to coastal shipping, besides enhancing Indian ship ownership and promoting ease of doing business in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is working out on maritime vision 2047, tourism and other recent legislations as to improve India's global position in shipping industry since the last ten years, if so the details thereof indicating the improvement in its standing/position as a result of such initiatives;
- (c) whether it is a fact that India is set to become the world leader in different verticals like ship building, ship repair and ship recycling and would be in top ten nations by the year 2030 and also top five nations by the year 2047 with an investment of more than 80 lakh crores in 25 years; and
- (d) if so the details and the present status thereof, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, West Bengal along with the amount of funds sanctioned/spent for the same?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes, several steps and initiatives have been undertaken by the Government to boost coastal shipping, focusing on enhancing efficiency and capacity. These include developing onshore and evacuation infrastructure, enhancing connectivity to and from ports through road and rail, reduction of GST on bunker fuels used in Indian Flag

Vessels from 18% to 5%, providing a 40% discount on vessels and cargo related charges to coastal cargo vessels, introduction of Green channel clearance for faster evacuation of coastal cargo, priority berthing policy to reduce turnaround time for coastal vessels.

(b) The Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 has been revamped to make India a bankable jurisdiction and place India among the top global players in shipping. The Merchant Shipping Bill, 2024 and Coastal Shipping Bill, 2024 have been introduced in the Lok Sabha on the 10th Dec 2024 and 2nd Dec 2024 respectively. In order to meet the challenges posed by the global shipping and for promotion of ease of doing business, the obsolete provisions have been replaced with contemporaneous ones and mandatory requirements under International Conventions have been incorporated in the MS Bill, 2024.

The Coastal Shipping Bill, 2024 ushers in a focused approach to foster growth and development of Indian coastal sector. It does away with license for Indian vessels for coastal and maritime trade. The Bill includes provisions for creation of a coastal plan involving Union and States, and integration of inland and coastal shipping for the promotion of coastal shipping.

(c) & (d) MIV 2030 aims to move India's shipbuilding and ship repair ranking into the top 10 globally, while AmritKaal Vision 2047 sets an even more ambitious goal of reaching the top 5 with an investment of Rs. 80 lakh Crore for the development of maritime sector during this period.
