

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2294
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10thMARCH, 2016

FREIGHT ACTIVITIES

2294. ADV. JOICE GEORGE:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

पोतपरिवहनमंत्री

- (a) the total freight activities being undertaken in domestic shipping in the country at present;
- (b) whether this is at par with international freight activities, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to increase freight activities in domestic shipping in the country?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
(SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

- (a)&(b): In the year 2014-15, the Indian ports handled 172.67 million tonnes coastal cargo while overseas cargo handled was 879.56 million tonnes
- (c) Ministry of Shipping has taken following steps to increase freight activities in domestic shipping in the country.
 - (i) Support to Major/Non-Major ports/State Government for creation of infrastructure for movement of coastal cargo.
 - (ii) Relaxation of technical and operational requirement for ships operating in Indian coast.
 - (iii) All major ports have been advised to introduce Green Channel for coastal cargo, priority berthing for coastal vessels and construction of exclusive coastal berths.
 - (iv) Removal of customs and central excise duty on bunker fuel used for transportation of mix of EXIM, empty and domestic containers.
 - (v) Reduction of service tax incidence on coastal shipping.
 - (vi) Cabotage relaxation for specialized vessels such as Ro-Ro, Hybrid Ro-Ro, Ro-Pax, Pure Car Carriers, Pure Car and Truck Carriers, LNG vessels and Over Dimensional Cargo or Project Cargo Carriers which are in short supply in India.
