## LOK SABHA

## UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 765

## TO BE ANSWERED ON 28 ${ }^{\text {TH }}$ APRIL, 2016

## LINKING OF MAJOR PORTS

## 765. DR. SWAMI SAKSHIJI MAHARAJ:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:
(a) whether the Government proposes to link all the major ports in the country;
(b) if so, the details and the objectives thereof;
(c) whether the Government has made any assessment of benefits likely to accrue as a result thereof and if so, the details thereof;
(d) whether the Government has taken any steps to safeguard the interests of employees of these ports; and
(e) if so, the details thereof?

## ANSWER <br> MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN)

(a)to(c):As part of the port connectivity objective of the Sagarmala Programme, the Government aims to enhance the connectivity of the major ports in the country to the hinterland.

As part of the National Perspective Plan (NPP), prepared under the Sagarmala Programme, more than 80 port connectivity projects have been proposed at an estimated investment of more than Rs. 2 Lakh Crore. This includes last mile road and rail-connectivity infrastructure to the ports, freight expressways, new pipelines for transporting crude and petroleum products, development of prioritized inland waterways and new multi-modal logistics hubs.

Logistics cost reduction opportunity of Rs. $35,000-40,000$ Crore per annum have been identified and includes increasing the share of coastal shipping and inland waterways in the modal mix.
(d)\&(e):The enhancement of connectivity to major ports will not affect the interest of employees of the ports, hence step to safeguard their interest does not arise.

