

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1552
ANSWERED ON 10.02.2023

COASTAL MARITIME TRANSPORT

1552. SHRI THOMAS CHAZHIKADAN:
SHRI T.R. BAALU:

Will the Minister of PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS be pleased to state:
पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री

- (a) whether Government has any comprehensive plan to promote Coastal shipping along the 7500 kms long coast-line of the country to exploit the shipping potential so that the excessive pressure on roads and railways in cross-country movement to cargo could be eased to a large extent;
- (b) if so, the details of new steps/initiatives undertaken and new policies and strategies put in place to develop coastal shipping in the country including Kerala along with the success achieved in terms of increased traffic during the last three years, State-wise including of Kerala;
- (c) the details of Government assistance and support to increase coastal shipping tonnage to agencies involved in coastal shipping including the private sector;
- (d) the amount of funds sanctioned and released for development of coastal maritime transport in Kerala during the last five years; and
- (e) the details of operational and ongoing projects for coastal maritime transport, State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

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

(a), (b)&(c) Under Sagarmala Programme, various initiatives and projects have been undertaken to facilitate shifting of cargo from conventional land-based transportation to coastal shipping mode.

The Government has taken following measures to enhance coastal shipping:

- i. The Coastal Berth Scheme under the Sagarmala Programme provides financial assistance for creation of infrastructure to promote movement of cargo/passengers by Sea/National Waterways. Under the Sagarmala Programme

60 projects worth Rs.2705 crore has been sanctioned for the development of Coastal Berths, Ro-Ro/Ro-Pax Jetties, Passenger Jetties etc. Out of which 15 projects worth Rs 849 Cr have been completed.

- ii. Licensing relaxation under section 407 of the Merchant shipping Act is given to container vessels for carrying EXIM containers and empty containers at transshipment ports for outbound transport; and to foreign flag vessels carrying Agricultural, fisheries, horticultural, fertilizers and animal produce commodities subject to the condition that these commodities constitute at least 50% of the cargo on board the ship at the beginning of the coastal leg.
- iii. A discount of 40% is offered by major ports on vessel and cargo related charges to coastal cargo vessels.
- iv. Priority berthing policy for coastal vessels has been notified to reduce turnaround time for coastal vessels and improve their utilization.
- v. Reduction of GST on bunker fuels used in Indian Flag Vessels from 18% to 5%.
- vi. Green channel clearance introduced for faster evacuation of coastal cargo at ports.
- vii. Allowed reimbursement of freight subsidy on primary movement of subsidized urea and P&K fertilizers by coastal shipping or inland water transportation.
- viii. The projects for improvement in the first and last mile road and rail connectivity with all the major and non-major ports have also been identified for faster cargo movement. Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is working with Ministry of Railways and Ministry of Road Transport and Highways to implement these projects.

The details of the coastal cargo traffic state wise for last three years is annexed **(Annexure-I)**

(d) For the development of projects in Kerala, Ministry has sanctioned Rs. 130 Crore under the Sagarmala programme and till date Rs. 73 crores have been released.

(e) The details of operational and ongoing projects for Coastal Maritime Transport State/UT-wise are annexed **(Annexure-II)**.

Annexure-I

Statewise coastal cargo traffic for last three years (MMTPA)			
States	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
Gujarat	32	27	31
Maharashtra	25	24	28
Goa	1	1	1
Andhra Pradesh	17	14	17
Karnataka	5	5	5
Kerala	6	6	6
Tamil Nadu	14	15	17
Puducherry	1	1	1
Odisha	20	17	22
West Bengal	5	3	3
Andaman & Nicobar	1	1	1
Total (MMTPA)	127	114	133

Annexure-II

States	Project Completed	Under Development	Under Implementation	Grand Total
Andhra Pradesh	1		1	2
Goa		1		1
Gujarat	2	3	2	7
Karnataka		5	4	9
Kerala	1			1
Maharashtra	9	11	12	32
Odisha		5		5
Tamil Nadu	2	1		3
Grand Total	15	26	19	60
