GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 845

ANSWERED ON- 26.07.2024

VIZHINJAM INTERNATIONAL SEAPORT

845. SHRI K SUDHAKARAN:

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to ensure the successful operation of Vizhinjam International Seaport in Thiruvananthapuram; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Yes, Sir. Government has taken steps to ensure successful operation of Vizhinjam International Seaport in Thiruvananthapuram.
- (b) Vizhinjam Seaport project, which is located about 16 km south of the capital city of Thiruvananthapuram is the first deep water transhipment port of the country. Govt. of Kerala signed a Concession Agreement with M/s Adani Vizhinjam Port Private Limited (AVPPL, the Concessionaire) in August, 2015 for the development and operation of the Vizhinjam seaport on Design, Build, Finance, Operate and Transfer (DBFOT) basis for an initial concession period of 40 years. The construction of Phase-I of the port commenced in December, 2015 and now is ready for operation and trail run is progressing. Government of India is to provide Viability Gap Funding (VGF) amounting to Rs. 817.80 crore to this project.

The Government has also taken the following necessary steps for the operationalization of Vizhinjam International Seaport:

(i) The Directorate General of Shipping (DG Shipping) has issued the interim International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Compliance Certificate for the port on 02.04.2024 which is valid for a period of 6 months.

- (ii) The DG Shipping has also issued the interim Navigational Safety in Ports Committee (NSPC) Compliance Certification for the port on 28.03.2024 which is valid till 07.10.2024.
- (iii) Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways on 23.04.2024 has given positive recommendations to the Central Board of Customs and Indirect Taxes for the declaration of Vizhinjam International Port as Customs notified port.
- (iv) The Vizhinjam Port has been declared as Customs Port and issued location code for the port.
- (v) Establishment of an Immigration Check Post (ICP) at Vizhinjam is under the consideration of the Government.
