

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:803
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2000
CARGO TRANSIT ROUTE VIA IRAN BETWEEN INDIA AND MOSCOW
KOLUR BASAVANAGOUD

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a proposal for new cargo transit route via Iran between India and Moscow is under consideration of the Government;
- (b) if so, the details and the salient features thereof; and
- (c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (c): On September 13, 2000 the then Surface Transport Minister Sh. Rajnath Singh had signed an agreement with the Transport Ministers of Russia and Iran for a transport route from India to Moscow passing through Iran and Caspian Sea. After development of this route, there will be considerable reduction in the time and cost of cargo transportation from India to Moscow and onward. Salient features of this agreement are annexed and this agreement will come into force after ratification from all the three governments.

Annexure referred to in answer to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 803 for 23 November, 2000

Salient features of the proposed Agreement are as follows:

- (i) Increasing effectiveness of transport ties in order to organise goods and passenger transport along the `International North-South Transport Corridor` from India.
- (ii) Setting up equal non-discriminative conditions for all types of transport service providers from all the parties to this Agreement for transportation of goods and passengers within the framework of North-South Transport Corridor.
- (iii) Regulation of international transport and transit of goods and passengers by all modes of transport or through combined transport along the routes determined by the competent authorities of respective parties.
- (iv) Reducing transit time and minimizing transit transport cost along the North-South Transport Corridor.
- (v) In case of India, the scope of Agreement is limited to transportation of goods by sea route only. Transit through Indian territory is not contemplated.