

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4669
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2003
EXPANSION OF ACTIVITIES OF DCI
ANANTA NAYAK

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Dredging Corporation of India (DCI) has taken any step to increase its operational capability;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, and the steps taken in this regard during the last three years;
- (c) whether there is a vast scope for DCI to expand its activities in the International markets;
- (d) if so, the specific steps taken by the DCI to tap the International market; and
- (e) the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. During the year 1999 and 2001 Dredging Corporation of India (DCI) has procured 3 Nos. 7400 cubic meter hopper capacity dredgers, which has resulted in increasing operational capacity of DCI by 30.6 million cubic meter per annum. Besides, steps have been taken to update the technology on board the dredgers and enhancing the technical skills of its staff.

(c) to (e): There is scope for DCI to expand its activities in international market particularly in the area of maintenance dredging. During the year 2001-2002, DCI had executed dredging assignment at Taichung Harbour, Taiwan. DCI has initiated action for positioning of Marketing Agents abroad particularly in countries like Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, UAE and Bahrain to promote its business. DCI has also approached Indian Embassies in these countries for providing necessary assistance in this regard. Steps have also been taken by DCI to position Consultant to identify a suitable Joint Venture/Alliance Partner to facilitate it to expand its base outside India and acquire technical skills in capital dredging assignments.