

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2146

ANSWERED ON:06.12.2006

PRIVATIZATION OF PORTS

Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Mane Smt. Nivedita;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether privatization of major ports like Mumbai Port Trust and Chennai Port Trust have been delayed for about 20 months;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is planning to make changes in the bidding norms for port projects to avoid delays on account of security clearance;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether such changes will affect the internal security of the country; and
- (f) if so, the time by which these norms are likely to be changed?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

- (a) & (b): There is no existing scheme or proposal for privatization of any major port. Mumbai Port has a proposal for Construction of Offshore Container Terminal on Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) basis. Chennai Port also has proposal for development of Second Container Terminal on BOT basis. There has been some delay on account of security clearance to the bidders. The issue has since been settled.
- (c): No Sir.
- (d) to (f): Does not arise.