

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1040
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2005
LIGHTHOUSE FACILITY IN LAKSHADWEEP ISLANDS
Koya Dr. P. Pookunhi

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to improve lighthouse facility in Lakshadweep Islands;
- (b) if so, whether there is any proposal to construct a major lighthouse at Chetlat, the northern most Island;
- (c) whether the Government has a proposal to introduce light buoys near the three reefs of Baliapani, Cheryapani and Perumulapar which are important fishing locations of the territory; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) Yes, Sir. A new Lighthouse is under construction at the southern most tip of Minicoy Island. Under the modernization plan, the range of Lighthouses at Amini, Kadamat, Chetlat, Agati, Bitra and Kiltan has been improved. New versions of Radar Transponder Beacons (Racons) have been established at Suhelipar and Minicoy and another is under establishment at Kavarati.
- (b) No, Sir. However, the northern most Island is Bitra where a Lighthouse is already established. Even at Chetlat, a lighthouse is existing to cater to the needs of mariners. The range of Chetlat Lighthouse has been recently improved from 8 Nautical miles to 12 Nautical miles.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.