

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3854  
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2010  
RAIL AND ROAD CONNECTIVITY WITH MAJOR PORTS  
Panda Shri Prabodh;Sinh Dr. Sanjay

**Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the major ports depend heavily on Ministries of Railways and Road Transport and Highways for providing connectivity to the ports for collection and dispersal of cargo;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Major Port Trusts have developed any mechanism for coordination with Ministries of Railways and Road Transport and Highways for providing such connectivity to the major ports at the earliest;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the other steps taken by the Major Port Trusts for construction of rail links and roads to provide efficient connectivity to the ports ?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Major Ports depend heavily on Ministry of Railways and Road Transport & Highways for providing connectivity to the Ports for collection and dispersal of cargo. All Major Ports are already provided with rail and road connectivity. Similarly, road connectivity projects are included in National Highways Development Programme for improvement of roads connecting 12 Major Ports in the country. At present, there are 8 on-going rail connectivity projects and 6 road connectivity projects. Each major port should preferably be connected by four lane road connectivity and double line of rail connectivity.

(c) to (d): Yes, Madam. Coordination meetings are held as and when required. Further, an Apex level committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Railway Board with officers of Ministry of Shipping and Ministry of Railways for coordination with regard to connectivity and operational level committee involving port officers to deal with issues in the field.

(e): Major Port Trusts are maintaining the road and rail network within the Port area. They are also joining hands with Railways and National Highways by forming Special Purpose Vehicles for construction of Rail and Road links.