

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5004

ANSWERED ON:26.04.2010

CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN MAJOR PORTS

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to connect all major ports electronically and uniform web based Post Connectivity System (PCS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the initiatives and scheme formulated for the purpose;
- (c) the time by which the scheme is likely to be implemented;
- (d) the extent to which the new scheme would reduce transaction costs, minimise delay and simplify procedures;
- (e) whether it is proposed to extend such scheme to all the minor ports of the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a): Yes, Madam. Government is vigorously pursuing implementation of Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) at Ports with the initiative of 'Centralized Web based – Port Community System (PCS) under 'e-trade' project in India

(b): As a part of Electronic data Interchange (EDI), Centralized Web Based - Port Community System (PCS) is envisaged which is intended to integrate the electronic flow of information and function as the centralized hub for all the Indian Ports and other stakeholders like Customs, Shipping lines/Agents, Surveyors, Stevedores, Banks, CFS, Customs House Agents, CONCOR/Railways, etc through a common interface.

(c): Initially, all 12 Major Ports have been identified for connecting electronically with PCS like Kolkata (Kolkata Dock System, Haldia Dock Complex), Paradip, Viskhapatnam, Chennai, Ennore, Tuticorin, Cochin, New Mangalore, Mormugao, Mumbai, Jawaharlal Nehru and Kandla. Implementation of PCS has been envisaged in following three Phases:

(i) The first phase consists of 33 messages covering vessel and container related messages among Ports, Shipping Agents, Shipping/Container Lines, Container Freight Station and Customs House Agents.

(ii) The second phase consists of 17 messages covering Transport, Cargo and Finance related and e-payments. Three additional stakeholders viz CONCOR/Railways/Pvt Carriers, Stevedores and Banks also be covered.

(iii) The third phase consists of around 43 messages covering Customs and other regulatory agencies {Port Health Organization (PHO), Mercantile Marine Department (MMD)} related messages. Customs and other regulatory stakeholder be covered.

(d): The implementation of PCS in India is expected to transform Indian Ports from antiquated Ports to modern Ports by bringing in a paperless regime. It minimises transaction time and cost to Indian export-import trade. Contribution of PCS to Indian trade, though not quantifiable in exact terms, will definitely herald new chapter in India by way of e-trade. However, it is expected to reduce a transaction cost at ports at least by 10% and empower Indian Ports to join the premiere league of international technology advanced e-ports.

(e): Yes, PCS is now proposed to be extended to non-major Ports also as per the Schedule given by Customs.

(f): As per Customs List, following Non-major Ports will be covered initially:

- # Pondicherry
- # Pipavav
- # Dahej
- # Nagapattinam
- # Magdala
- # Jamnagar
- # Sikka
- # Bedi

# Gangavaram  
# Kakinada  
# Mundra