

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:20
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2010
CONTAINER TERMINALS AT MAJOR PORTS
Semmalai Shri S.

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress made by the Government in setting up of International Container Transshipment Terminals (ICTT) in the major ports in the country;
- (b) whether the dredging work undertaken at Cochin port for commissioning of Vallarpadam International Container Transshipment Terminal (VICTT) has resulted in erosion of sea coast;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G. K. VASAN)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.20 FOR ANSWER ON 26-07-2010. RAISED BY SHRI S. SEMMALAI REGARDING CONTAINER TERMINALS AT MAJOR PORTS.

(a): An International Container Transshipment Terminal is being established in Cochin Port. As of today 95% of the physical completion of the ICTT has been achieved. The first phase of the terminal is expected to be ready for operations by end August, 2010.

(b) to (d): Cochin Port Trust had carried out environment impact assessment (EIA) studies of the ICTT through the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) and the Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS), Pune. No adverse impact was predicted at the time of the EIA study. Based on the EIA study, environment clearance was obtained for the above projects from the M/o Environment and Forests. While communicating the approval, the M/o Environment and forests had directed the Port Trust to commission the National Institute of Oceanography for continuous monitoring of the impact of the Project for a period of three years from the commencement of the Project. Accordingly, the Port Trust has already commissioned the NIO for continuously monitoring of the impact, if any. This study commenced in December, 2008, when the capital dredging commenced, and will continue even beyond the completion of the capital dredging, till December, 2011.

The NIO has not so far reported any adverse impact of the capital dredging on the coast.

On the public representation, the Port has also engaged experts from the Department of Oceanography, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, to carry out a fresh, independent study on the subject.