

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3184
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2010
UNIFORM LEGISLATION FOR PORTS
Panda Shri Baijayant

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to bring in a new uniform comprehensive law to deal with ports in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of various legislations that govern ports in the country and the manner in which these have been found deficient to deal with the capacity expansion and modernisation etc;
- (d) whether it is also proposed to bring minor ports under this legislation to secure uniformity; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a) & (b): A proposal is under preparation in consultation with the various Divisions of the Ministry to consider the merger of Indian Ports Act, 1908 and the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963. As the proposal is at a very nascent/ preparatory stage, the details and the modalities of the merger of the above two acts are yet to be finalized.

(c): Indian Ports Act, 1908 and the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 are the two major legislations that govern the ports in the Country. The need for the new proposal under reference was felt due to the prevalence of a number of obsolete provisions in the existing acts and to have some new provisions in the legislative frame work in tune with the present requirements of the ports to operate in a commercial climate, as a result of liberalization of the economy, for capacity addition and modernisation.

(d) & (e): The new proposal contemplates to bring a level playing field between the Major Ports and the non-major Ports and all the essential provisions for the purpose shall be made in the proposal once it is finalized.