

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5443

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2010

CONNECTIVITY OF PORTS

Sethi Shri Arjun Charan

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to lack of coordination the different agencies of the State and Union Government the ports connectivity in the major ports has been a problem in the country more particularly in Mormugao major port in Goa; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to help address the problem faced thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K.VASAN)

(a): No, Madam, the road connectivity projects are progressing smoothly in almost every Major Port except the 4 laning NH-17 B road connectivity project of Mormugao Port. Unfortunately, this project is getting delayed due to the uncooperative attitude of the State Government. Four laning of almost entire stretch of (18.3 Km) of NH- 17 B from Verna to Sada junction, except the last stretch of 5.2 Km from Baina to Sada Junction, has been completed. 4 laning of the stretch from Baina to Sada Junction is held up because of inability of the State Government to hand over vacant possession of the land to NHAI which is executing the project. It is a fact that Mormugao Port has already paid the cost of rehabilitation of Project Affected Persons. It is even ready to pay the escalated cost of rehabilitation of Rs.12 crores on account of delay on the part of the State Government.

The matter was raised before the Hon'ble High Court of Bombay & Goa at Panaji, in which the Hon'ble Court directed the State Government to hand over the entire stretch of land upto Sada Junction to NHAI. Despite clear directions by the High Court, the state Government continues to allow the unauthorized occupants on Govt. land, thereby obstructing the completion of the road.

(b): In order to resolve the problem, various high level meetings are held. A meeting was taken on 17th March, 2010 by Secretary (Shipping) with the officials of government of Goa and Mormugao Port, in which Secretary (Shipping) requested the Chief Secretary, Government of Goa to apprise the Government about the special package offered by the Port. An independent Agency may be deployed to apprise the 78 occupants about the special package offered by the Port and requirement of road for development of their area and economic growth of the state.