

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2661
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012
STOPPAGES OF WORK IN HDC
Tarai Shri Bibhu Prasad

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether an impasse in Haldia Dock Complex (HDC) has caused total stoppages of work of loading and unloading in the Dock complex;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the top officials of a cargo handling company were abducted, beaten and threatened;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken by the Government to end the imasse?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a) & (b): No, Madam. Out of the 14 berths in Haldia Dock Complex (HDC), normal operations are going on in 12 berths. Work at Berths 2 & 8 has been affected due to labour agitation following the retrenchment of 275 workers by Haldia Bulk Terminals (HBT), the contractor engaged for cargo handling in these Berths and subsequent unilateral termination of the contract by the Contractor.

(c) to (e): The alleged act of abduction/kidnapping reportedly happened outside the Port limits in Haldia Township, 7 kms away from the Port area. A copy of the FIR lodged in this connection with Haldia Police Station was received by Kolkata Port Trust on 28.10.2012 which was forwarded on the same day to Superintendent of Police, Purba Medinipur.

The Kolkata Port had taken all efforts including legal recourse to solve the issues relating to Berths 2 & 8. However, following the unilateral termination of the contract by the Contractor, the Port has initiated the process for re-tendering the cargo handling works in these two berths.