

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:959
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2013
PORT REGULATORY AUTHORITY BILL
Pradhan Shri Amarnath

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plan to drop the proposed Port Regulatory Authority Bill – 2011 and empower the State Governments to make legislation in regard to minor ports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken on Public Private Partnership(PPP) mode for development of ports in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K.VASAN)

(a) to (c): Yes, Madam. In view of the reservations expressed by Stakeholders including Maritime States, the Ministry of Shipping has decided not to pursue the proposed Port Regulatory Authority (PRA) Bill. In regard to Non-Major Ports, the State Governments are already empowered under the Indian Ports Act, 1908.

(d): The Government has taken the following steps to promote PPP mode for development of Ports in the country:

- (i) Upto 100% FDI under the automatic route is allowed for Port development projects.
- (ii) Income tax incentives are allowed as per the Income Tax Act, 1961.
- (iii) Bidding documents like RFQ, RFP and Concession Agreement have been standardized.
- (iv) Enhanced delegation of financial powers to Shipping Ministry to accord investment approval for PPP projects.
- (v) Streamlining of security clearance procedures.
- (vi) Close monitoring by the Shipping Ministry to expedite project approvals and implementation.