

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1122  
ANSWERED ON:13.07.2009  
DEPTH OF APPROACH ROUTE TO HALDIA PORT  
Panda Shri Prabodh

**Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the depth of the approach route to Haldia Port is decreasing very fast;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has drawn up any elaborate programme to increase the depth of the approach route to Haldia Port; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the time by which the said work is likely to be completed?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a): The depths of the two primary bars, Jellingham and Auckland, leading to Haldia Dock Complex under Kolkata Port Trust, have been decreasing gradually. A statement of depth in the above areas since 2003 together with average draft of Haldia Dock Complex since 2002 is enclosed.

(b) & (c): As a short term measure, Dredging Corporation of India Limited has deployed additional dredgers at Haldia since November, 2008 towards maintenance of the depth and presently, seven DCI dredgers are working in the Jellingham and Auckland areas. In addition, efforts are also being made by Dredging Corporation of India to mobilize two hired dredgers towards augmenting its dredging effort in the Haldia channel.

As a long term solution to the depth problem, Kolkata Port Trust, on the strength of the recommendations of National Institute of Ocean Technology, had drawn up a scheme comprising Capital Dredging & River Training works within the river (Haldia & Rangafalla Channel) for improvement of draught in the Hugli estuary. The scheme is being revalidated by Water And Power Consultancy Service - Water & Power Research Station through mathematical model study in the light of present bathymetry as well as hydro-dynamic condition of the river. The Revalidation report along with fresh recommendations will be available by the end of October, 2009.