

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:245
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2009
STATUS OF CRUISE SHIPPING
Panda Shri Baijayant

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of cruise shipping in the country at present;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to exploit this sector to improve the economy of the people of the coastal region;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has allocated funds for developing the infrastructure in this sector for cruise shipping; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 245 FOR ANSWER ON 7TH DECEMBER, 2009 RAISED BY SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA

(a): The Government of India has approved the Cruise Shipping Policy of India in June, 2008. Cruise Shipping would be a path breaking development in India's efforts to carve a prominent space in world tourism and it would showcase India as a major source and destination of world tourism. With the implementation of this policy, the growth in diverse sectors would spill out and it would earn foreign exchange for the country and generate employment. The number of cruise ships which called at Indian ports was 106 in the year 2008-09 as compared to 55 in the year 2003-04 and the number of cruise passengers rose from 34,372 in 2003-04 to 69,456 in 2008-09.

(b) & (c): Yes Madam. The Government proposes to exploit this sector by developing cruise terminals/infrastructure in order to have more calls from cruise liners.

(d) & (e): The Ports are earmarking funds from their own resources for development of Cruise related Infrastructure. A dedicated passenger cum-cruise terminal has recently been inaugurated at New Mangalore Port. Cruise Terminals are also being developed at Cochin and Mumbai Ports and Ports at Chennai, Tuticorin, Murmagao and Kolkata have been identified for development of Cruise facilities. There are schemes also under the Ministry of Tourism for part funding of Infrastructure projects relating to Tourism.