

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2809
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2009
HANDLING CAPACITY OF HDC
Baske Shri Pulin Bihar

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Haldia Dock Complex (HDC) is not in a position to handle large vessels;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken to improve the port facility;
- (c) whether the Government has received any proposal to improve HDC for handling large vessels; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a): Haldia can handle vessels upto Length overall of 250 mtrs. at its oil jetties and upto a length of 240 mtrs. within its docks. However, due to reduction in depths in its approach channel, parcel load for such vessels have reduced considerably during last three years.

(b): The present depth at Lower Auckland Bar, which is the governing bar in the Haldia Channel is 3.7 mtrs. and the present average draft available for Haldia bound vessels for the month of October, 2009 is 6.5 mtrs., which was 7.1 mtrs. during the same period in the last year. Presently six dredgers of Dredging corporation of India have been deployed for continuous dredging in Haldia Channel.

(c) & (d): As a long term solution to the depth problem, Kolkata Port Trust on the strength of recommendations of NIOT, had drawn up a scheme comprising capital dredging and river training works within the river (Haldia and Rangafalla Chanel) for improvement of the draft in the Hooghly Estuary. By that time the said scheme could be approved river Bathymetry and boundary conditions of the river had changed adversely. As a result, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) recommended re-validation of the recommendations made by NIOT on the basis of a mathematical model study. Accordingly, the scheme is being re-validated by WAPCOS-CWPRS through mathematical model study in the light of present bathymetry as well as hydro-dynamic condition of the river. Based on the recommendations, a fresh scheme will be formulated for the improvement of draft in the Hooghly Estuary. The study report on revalidation of the scheme is expected from the WAPCOS-CWPRS by December, 2009.