

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7292

ANSWERED ON:21.05.2012

COASTAL SHIPPING

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Bhoi Shri Sanjay;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India's Infrastructure clogs is choking growth opportunities in ports along the coast line restraining the US and other countries from developing commercial ties with India;
- (b) if so, whether coastal shipping, which accounts for 40 percent of trade volume in the US, China and Europe, is only 7 percent of India's total domestic cargo transport network;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government has taken any initiative to develop infrastructure around Indian coast line to boost the trade; and
- (e) if so, the details in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a) to (c): There has been no instance of India's infrastructure clogs choking growth opportunities in ports along the coast line restraining the US and other countries from developing commercial ties with India.

(d) & (e): Yes, Madam. To meet the projected demand of 943.06 million tonnes of cargo to be handled by Major Ports and 815.20 million tonnes by Non-Major Ports as envisaged by the Working Group of 12th Five Year Plan for the Port Sector, both major ports and non-major ports have conceptualized various capacity augmentation schemes with an estimated investment of Rs.180626.23 crores during the 12th Five Year Plan. Several projects have been identified for development of port infrastructure on the Indian Coastline to boost the trade. These projects include construction/up-gradation of berths, deepening of channels, equipment up-gradation etc.