

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5215  
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2014  
HALDIA PORT  
Adhikari Shri Suwendu

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

- (a) the details of the concrete steps the Union Government is contemplating towards permanent solution to gradual draft deterioration of Haldia Port, East Medinipore, West Bengal;
- (b) Whether the Union Government is considering the proposal of setting up of Haldia Port Trust Authority;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Union Government is contemplating any new guideline or mechanism to prevent piracy attempts at sea; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI KRISHANPAL GURJAR)

(a) Kolkata Port Trust has engaged internationally recognized Consultant, M/s H.R. Wallingford, London for suggesting measures to improve the draft at Haldia Dock as well as to reduce the annual maintenance dredging cost. After studying the earlier technical reports of River Hooghly, the consultants have suggested a Pilot Project by way of "Side casting of dredged material instead of transporting the same to the dumping grounds" as short term measure and as a long term measure "To explore the possibility of a new shipping alignment cutting across Nayachara Island" by collection of field data and also to carry out hydro-dynamic modeling studies, ship simulation studies, siltation pattern studies, numerical modeling, etc. Now the Kolkata Port is carrying out the Pilot Project.

(b)&(c): No. Madam. Kolkata Port Trust (KoPT) is a Trust under Major Port Trusts Act, 1963 comprising Kolkata Dock System (KDS) and Haldia Dock Complex (HDC) under a common Board of Trustees. The issue of delinking of Haldia Dock Complex and developing it as an Autonomous Body/ Independent Port had been raised from time to time and since 1975 three different committees were constituted by the Govt. of India and none of the three committees recommended separation of HDC from Kolkata Port. The recommendation was both KDS and HDC should function under one umbrella of KoPT, play complementary roles supplementing and not supplanting each-other.

(d)&(e): Government has taken various preventing/ mitigating security measures for anti-piracy which, inter-alia, include the following:

- (i) M.S Notice No. 1 of 2011 issued providing for elaborate anti-piracy measures (Best Management Practices), including safe house / citadel.
- (ii) Banning of sailing vessels to ply in waters south or west of the line joining Salalah and male vide DGS M.S. Notice No. 3/2010.
- (iii) Naval escort provided by Indian naval ships in the Gulf of Aden since 2008.
- (iv) Enhanced vigil by the Indian Navy in the Indian EEZ and westward upto 65 degree east longitude.
- (v) Active participation of India in the security meetings of the International Maritime Organization, Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia (CGPCS) and other international fora.
- (vi) Submission of Document No. 27/9/1 at the IMO Assembly meeting held at London on 21-30.11.2011 for flag states to provide information on the welfare of captive crew, efforts for their release and also on continued payment of their wages.