

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 835**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020

**STATUS OF PUDUCHERRY PORT**

835. SHRI VE. VAITHILINGAM:

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

पोत परिवहन मंत्री

- (a) whether any MoU has been signed between the Government of Puducherry and Chennai Port Trust;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has any plan to develop Puducherry Port as its feeder port to handle Cargo fleet; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the status of the same?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR SHIPPING  
(SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) & (b) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 15.03.2017 between the Chennai Port Trust and Government of Puducherry to develop Pondicherry Port as a Feeder Port of Chennai Port. A 'trial run' was conducted at Puducherry Port by transporting Containers from Chennai Port by a special Container Vessel. During the trial run, it was observed that there were few areas in the Channel and mouth of the port where the draft was less. Therefore, dredging needs to be carried out on a regular basis to handle Containers Vessels.

(c) & (d). Ministry of Shipping had already sanctioned an amount of Rs. 44 Crores under "Sagarmala Scheme" to take up the dredging work at Puducherry Port. Govt of Puducherry has obtained the requisite Environment Clearance and Coastal Regulation Zone clearance from Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and invited tenders for work of the Capital Dredging.

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