

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1941
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND SEPTEMBER, 2020

COVID-19 IMPACT ON CARGO TRAFFIC HANDLING

1941. SHRI ACHYUTANANDA SAMANTA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

पोत परिवहन मंत्री

- (a) the details of the cargo traffic handled at major ports in India;
- (b) whether the number has returned to pre-COVID-19 levels;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure the growth of traffic for individual segments like POLs, containers and coal in the near future; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) COVID 19 impact at Major Ports started from March 2020. There was a considerable decline in the total traffic, containers traffic and other than containers traffic in March, April, May, June, July and August, 2020 as compared to the corresponding months in 2019. However, the recovery has started since July 2020. The details of traffic handled at Major ports for last 9 months are annexed.

(d) to (e) Infrastructure development and capacity expansion at Major Ports is a continuous process. Port Projects such as construction of berths, installation of state-of-the-art equipment, mechanisation of cargo handling system and dredging projects to accommodate large-size vessels, etc. help in increasing the capacity of Major ports and growth of traffic including POL, containers and coal. Major ports are operating at full strength and efficiency.

Details of traffic handled at Major ports for last 9 months:

Period	Total Traffic during month		Containers Traffic			
	(In 000 Tonnes)	% Var. w.r.t. prev. year	Tonnage (000 Tonnes)	% Var. w.r.t. prev. year	TEUs (In 000)	% Var. w.r.t. prev. year
December'19	60556	5.59	12246	-1.23	833	-1.88
December'18	57352		12398		849	
January'20	61344	1.79	12913	3.84	860	2.14
January'19	60268		12435		842	
February'20	57233	4.58	11791	1.24	802	1.01
February'19	54729		11647		794	
March'20	61120	-5.25	12006	-10.46	790	-12.51
March'19	64510		13408		903	
April'20	47422	-21.08	8306	-33.79	542	-36.98
April'19	60086		12545		860	
May'20	45399	-23.25	8497	-34.08	563	-35.58
May'19	59151		12890		874	
June'20	49053	-14.64	9549	-22.19	640	-23.63
June'19	57466		12272		838	
July'20	51454	-13.23	11464	-13.02	751	-15.24
July'19	59300		13180		886	
Aug'20	51611	-10.23	11460	-8.79	762	-13.8
Aug'19	57494		12565		884	
