

Ship Reporting Complex at Haldia, West Bengal

2008. SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD VERMA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a 'Study group' was set up by Government to go into the question of setting up a ship repairing complex at Haldia, West Bengal sometime back;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of such study group;

(c) whether a preliminary report has since been submitted;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) when Government are going to clear this long pending question of setting up the complex at Haldia, West Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The terms of reference of the Study Group were:—

(i) To examine in detail on techno-economic considerations the feasibility of establishing a dry dock-cum-shiprepair complex in the Calcutta region.

(ii) The feasibility of entrusting the ownership and operation of the shiprepair yard to a group of interested shipping companies and ship repairers.

(iii) The possibility of construction of the dry dock already proposed by the Shipping Corporation of India as first phase and integrating it later in the shiprepair complex.

(c) The Study Group has since submitted its report.

(d) The Group has recommended the setting up of a shiprepair complex around a dry dock capable of taking in 45,000 DWT vessels at Haldia and entrusting its management to a company in the public sector or joint sector. The

Group has not considered it necessary to establish any additional dry dock in Calcutta but has recommended various measures to optimise the utilisation of the existing dry docks and shiprepair facilities in Calcutta.

(e) After comprehensive project proposals have been formulated and examined by Government.

India's total export cargo

2009. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of India's total export cargo transported from inland centres to ports by road and what are the problems faced in transporting export cargo by roads to ports;

(b) the recommendations made by the operations research group of Baroda sometime back to Government facilitating unhindered flow of such transport by road from inland centres to ports; and

(c) action taken by Government on the suggestion of the operations research group of Baroda that since over 60 per cent of India's exports are transported to ports by roads, 10,000 inter-state truck permits, may be issued to facilitate this road traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) According to the findings of the Operations Research Group, Baroda, on the Survey of the Domestic Transport of India's Export Cargo, published in 1971, road transport has a share of 66.5 per cent in value and 51.1 per cent in the tonnage of export cargo moved to the ports, excluding ores which forms the bulk of export tonnage and whose movement is done by Railways under special programmes. According to the same report, the major impediments to the free movement of goods by road were as under.—

(i) Laden weight restrictions.