

**Regarding need to construct a dry port at Sangli in Maharashtra to promote export of agricultural produce of the region-Laid**

**SHRI VISHALDADA PRAKASHBAPU PATIL (SANGLI):** Sangli needs a dry port to boost agricultural and its allied sectors? exports, such as turmeric, raisin, and jaggery. The Government had promised in 2018 that a dry port would be built at Ranjani village in Kavathemahankal taluka of Sangli district. However, a 2023 RTI reply revealed that Maharashtra has been categorized under Red Zone by the Ministry of Finance because of which no new dry port can be established. Later it was reported that the Government had proposed to create a Multi-Model-Logistic-Park (MMLP) and the site was changed to Salgare village in Miraj tehsil, Sangli. The National Highways Logistics Management Company Ltd was tasked to develop 35 MMLPs at Central Government approved locations. Another 2023 RTI reply reveals that Salgare village was not a part of those approved locations. The Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture in 2021, had noted that lack of rail and road connectivity to the existing ports, holds back the potential of many ports. I urge the Government to consider construction of this dry port which has been a long-standing demand. This will significantly help farmers, increase shipments and market access from Sangli and its neighbouring areas.

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**13.21 hrs**