

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3458
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2005
REGULATION OF MARITIME SECTOR
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has since formulated a comprehensive policy for regulation of maritime sector;
- (b) if so, the salient features thereof;
- (c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of fishermen?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS(SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (c) The Government is in the process of finalizing the Policy for the Maritime Sector (Ports, Merchant Shipping and Inland Water Transport). The Policy, inter alia, is aimed at holistic development of India's maritime transport systems through a coordinated plan and strategies for development of port infrastructure, backward integration of hinterland through rail, road and inland water transport connectivity, improvement in shipping and augmentation of ship-building and ship-repair facilities so as to emerge as an internationally competitive nation in this area by 2025. After consultations with the various stakeholders, State Governments and Central Government agencies and on the basis of feedback during inter Ministerial consultations, areas of focus for inclusion in the maritime policy have been identified for further processing for obtaining approval of the Competent Authority. This process will take some time.

(d) The draft Policy for the Maritime Sector recognizes the need to ensure that the functioning of the maritime ports and fisheries harbours do not conflict with each other and seeks to limit and define the role of the major ports in the existing fisheries harbours.