

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3499  
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2005  
LONG TERM MARITIME POLICY  
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

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

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to have a long-term maritime policy to exploit full potential of the seas surrounding the country and achieve synergy between trade and security;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has held any meeting with various ministries in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (d) the time by which it is likely to be finalised?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (d) The Government is in the process of finalizing the Policy for the Maritime Sector (Ports, Merchant Shipping and Inland Water Transport). The Policy seeks to combine vision and strategy for the sector through harmonious and coordinated development of our maritime assets like Ports, Inland Water Transport, Shipping and Ship-repair industries. 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.