

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3977
ANSWERED ON:17.05.2006
NEW SHIPPING AGREEMENT WITH PAKISTAN
Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba

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

- (a) whether India and Pakistan have reached an understanding to sign a new shipping agreement;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to identify the problems in transportation of goods between the two countries?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): No, Sir. However, India had signed a Shipping Protocol with Pakistan in 1975 which inter alia restricts lifting of cargo between the two countries by third country vessels as well as lifting of third country cargo by Indian and Pakistani flag vessels from each others' ports. This Protocol was reviewed by both sides and initialed at official level. After approval of both Governments, the revised Protocol will come into force.

(c) In addition, certain issues relating to transportation of goods through railway have been identified for further discussion.