GOVERNMENT OF INDIA STEEL LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5596 ANSWERED ON:29.04.2010 BREAKING OF FOREIGN SHIPS Panda Shri Baijayant;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the foreign ships are allowed on the sea in Gujarat and other States for breaking which is a cause of concern;

(b) if so, the details of foreign ships that had entered Indian ports for breaking during the last three years; and

(c) the details of action plan of the Government to address this serious issue which has become a cause of concern for coastal population in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The details of foreign ships that had entered Indian ports for breaking during the last three years are as under:-

YEAR NO. OF SHIPS

2007-08 140 2008-09 267 2009-10 398

(c) As per the orders dated 17.02.2006 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of Central Technical Committee (CTC) under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests was set up to regulate various activities of ship breaking industries. The CTC gave its recommendations touching all aspects of ship breaking. The recommendations are operative by virtue of the Supreme Court Order dated 6-9-2007. Pursuant to the directives of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, a series of measures have been taken for attenuating the hazards of ship breaking and for improving the working conditions at ship-breaking yards. Consequently, detailed protocols and procedures have been put in place for scrutinizing ships arriving for breaking and for handling and disposing of hazardous materials and wastes. The provisions of existing rules take adequate care of the hazards of ship breaking including the need for safeguarding national security etc. Further, as and when any shortcomings are noticed, remedial steps are taken.