

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6034
ANSWERED ON:03.05.2010
TUG BOATS
Ray Shri Bishnu Pada

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) the names and number of tug boats of Shipping Department and Port Management Board of Andaman and Nicobar Islands that are functioning or non-functioning during each of the last three years and current year;
- (b) the reasons for non-functioning of such tug boats;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for restoration of such non-operational tug boats;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to deploy one tug boat at Mayabunder Port; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the time by which such boats are likely to be functional?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G. K. VASAN)

(a): The Shipping Department has one tug boat namely MT Angad, which is non-operational since July, 2009. The Port Management Board has three tug boats MT Balshali (non-operational since 31st August, 2000), MT Vanchi (non-operational since June, 2006) and MT Gaj (operational since January, 2001).

(b): MT Angad – The vessel is under major routine maintenance / repair since July, 2009. Because the engines of the vessel are obsolete, the required spares for repair of the engine are not readily available. Orders for supply of spares have been placed with Original Engine Manufacturer in August, 2009, which are expected shortly.

MT Balshali – Due to frequent breakdown of port main engine, the vessel has become non-operational. A Committee has been constituted to assess the feasibility of condemnation of the vessel, in case the vessel is beyond economic repairs.

MT Vanchi – The vessel is non-operational for want of major overhauling of the main engines and repair of defective pneumatic remote control system.

(c): MT Angad – Orders for supply of spares have been placed with in August, 2009, which are expected to arrive shortly.

MT Balshali – A Committee has been constituted to assess the feasibility of condemnation of the vessel, in case the vessel is beyond economic repairs.

MT Vanchi – Action has been initiated to get the vessel repaired at the earliest and the vessel is likely to re-join service by June, 2010.

(d) & (e): Deployment of a tug boat permanently at Mayabunder Port is not feasible at present as the tug will remain idle most of the time. Tug is being deployed whenever vessels call at Mayabunder Port.