

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4165  
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2010  
SINKING OF SHIPS  
Jeyadural Shri S. R.

**Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of ships or shipping vessels that sank in the Indian coastal water during the last three years, year-wise;
- (b) the total losses suffered by the shipping sector due to sinking of these ships and vessels;
- (c) whether the Indian Ports are well equipped to detect hazardous substances;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and;
- (e) the measures taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a): The ships/vessels that sank in Indian coastal waters in the last three years is as under:-

Year    Number of Ships/Vessels

2007	16
2008	2
2009	4
2010 (till 30/11/2010)	6
Total	28

(b): The Government has no access to data on financial losses suffered by the shipping sector due to these casualties.

(c) to (e): Yes, Madam. Department of Customs at the Major Ports has full fledged laboratory for carrying out required chemical test. There are two X-Ray scanners operated by Customs in Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust for scanning of containers. Scanning devices are being installed in a phased manner at all the ports handling containers by Customs. Action is being taken for procurement of equipment for detection of radioactive material.