

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:129

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2012

BAN ON ENTRY OF FOREIGN SHIPS

Patil Shri C. R. ;Premajibhai Dr. Solanki Kiritbhai

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to ban the entry of foreign ships carrying poisonous chemical advancing towards Alang Shipyard in Gujarat and other ports in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether international laws are being violated by allowing the entry of such ships;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government in the matter?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 129 TO BE ANSWERED ON 3RD DECEMBER, 2012 RAISED BY DR. KIRIT PREMJBHAI SOLANKI AND SHRI C.R. PATIL REGARDING BAN ON ENTRY OF FOREIGN SHIPS

(a) & (b): In case of ships advancing to Alang for recycling purposes, identifying the presence of poisonous chemicals on ships is a step which is preparatory to ship-breaking. As per procedure followed currently in the Alang ship breaking yard in Gujarat, a ship is allowed to enter Indian waters after the Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB) gives its consent stating that the ship does not contain any hazardous cargo including radioactive/nuclear wastes. GMB issues such consent in consultation with Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) and custom authorities. After this, Gujarat Pollution Control Board (GPCB) has to certify that the ship does not contain any hazardous wastes, based on which beaching and cutting permission is given by the GMB.

(c) & (d): No specific report of violation of any international law has come to the notice of the Ministry.

(e): Apart from formulation of a Code on Regulations for Safe & Environmentally Sound Ship Recycling, the Government has initiated steps for ratification of the Hong Kong International Convention on Safe & Environmentally Sound recycling of Ships 2009. So far, no country has ratified this Convention.