

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2695  
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012  
VIOLATIONS OF SECURITY NORMS  
Singh Shri Bhola

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

- (a) whether security norms are being violated while handling gas and petroleum items on ships;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry in this regard;
- (d) if so, the outcome therein; and
- (e) the remedial measures taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a): No, Madam.

(b): Does not arise.

(c) & (d): An accident was reported recently in an Indian Flag vessel named LPG Maharshi Krishnatreya while handling the machinery in compressor room of the vessel. A preliminary inquiry by a team comprising officers of Mercantile Marine Departments of Kandla and Jamnagar and experts from the Shipping Industry and Indian Register of Shipping has been ordered.

(e): The standards of design and safety of ships carrying gas and petroleum products are required to conform to the codes adopted under the International Maritime Organisation's Conventions. The oil and gas industry regulates the standards through vetting inspections and prescribed international best practices in the trades. The preventive measures are laid down as per the safety management systems developed by the shipping company as per international safety management code. Besides, the Government has also prescribed the following preventive measures:

(i) All personnel working on such ships are required to have special ship type endorsement which is given based on specialized training and/or experience.

(ii) Gas-tankers and chemical tankers are required to have certificate of fitness which is given only if the vessel is found to be constructed and maintained in a safe manner, fit for such trade and in compliance with IMO prescribed standards like International Dangerous Chemicals in Bulk Code and International Liquefied Gases in Bulk Code.

(iii) The flag state/port state control inspections are carried out covering the operational aspect by the surveyors of Mercantile Marine Department.

(iv) Ensuring well established procedures on board ships under ISM Code by adopting safe operating practices.

(v) Ensuring availability of calibrated gas detection equipments on board ships.

(vi) Ensuring availability of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including Emergency Escape Breathing Device (EEBD) on board ships.

(vii) Ensuring availability of procedures to carry-out risk assessment of key ship board operations so that safeguards against such risks are initiated by the ship personnel.