

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6210
ANSWERED ON:06.05.2013
VOYAGE AND TOWAGE PERMISSION
Kanubhai Patel Jayshreeben

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) the action being taken by the Government to issue necessary notification authorising the State Maritime Boards for voyage and towage permission;
- (b) whether the Government has received any communication from Gujarat State Government or public authorities for issue of notification to extend the IV limits to huge size of vessels and barges so that such barges, tugs and other IV craft can work up to an area where the significant height is a maximum of two metres; and
- (c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K.VASAN)

(a): As on date, Directorate General (Shipping) notification vide Merchant Shipping Notice No. 03 of 2008 governs plying of vessels registered under Inland Vessel's Act, 1917, for making single voyages on coast of India without cargo, passengers or tow. Under this notice there is a provision of 'Delegation of Authority' for authorizing a coastal State to embark upon this responsibility of inspection and certification on basis of proper justification, displaying their capacity in respect of technical expertise and adequacy in the required strength of qualified persons to conduct this task effectively and efficiently. Notification vide MS Notice No. 08 of 2013 governs towage on coast of India. There is, however, no provision to delegate authority to a coastal State, under this Notice, for the purpose of towing, as higher degree of technical expertise is considered necessary for safe and efficient execution of towage.

(b) & (c): Yes, Madam. A communication dated 06/02/2013 has been received from the Gujarat Maritime Board (GMB), Gujarat for extension of IV limits. The Directorate General of Shipping has advised the Gujarat Maritime Board on 18.2.2013, to provide details such as qualification, expertise and experience of its officers, for whom, the provision of 'delegation of authority' may be exercised under MS Notice No. 03 of 2008. Further, a committee has been constituted to give its report on fixing the Inland Vessel (IV) limits and make port-wise recommendations, within a period of three months.