

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2247  
ANSWERED ON:11.03.2013  
DREDGING AT PORTS  
Veljibhai Jat Poonamben

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

- (a) whether in major ports in the country dredging is carried out throughout the year;
- (b) if so, the cost of dredging carried out at the port of Kandla in Kutch district of Gujarat;
- (c) whether even after carrying out dredging throughout the year ships were frequently grounded in Kandla port; and
- (d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to minimize the grounding of ships at such major ports including Kandla port in the country?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K.VASAN)

- (a) Yes, Madam.
- (b) In Kandla Port, the cost of maintenance dredging for the financial year 2012-13(till February, 2013) is Rs.82.52 crores.
- (c): There were a total number of 15 incidents of vessels touching bottom which were reported in the last year. Out of which only 4 such happenings were in the Navigational Channel. The other incidents were due to vessels dragging anchors in the strong tideway or before entering the navigational Channel. The 4 incidents in the Navigational Channel were due to crossing of vessels or drifting to the edge of the channel. However, the vessels were refloated on the next tide and there have been no cases of casualty, damage or pollution of any kind.
- (d): All Major Ports including Kandla are undertaking regular maintenance dredging so as to ensure that grounding of ships is avoided.