

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1761
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2013
BAN ON SHIPS WITH POISONOUS CHEMICALS
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)&(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)The Government has formulated a Code on Regulations for Safe & Environmentally Sound Ship Recycling.