

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:643  
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013  
NON UTILISATION OF SEA WAYS  
Jakhar Shri Badri Ram

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

- (a) whether the Government has not fully utilised the sea-ways to their optimum capacity as yet;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the corrective measures taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K- VASAN)

(a)&(b):The Government is committed to utilising the full potential of seaways. However, the coastal ships perceive lack of capital, bunker cost and infrastructure gaps as hindrances to optimizing domestic shipping transport.

(c) To promote coastal shipping in the country, the Government has exempted ships and vessels from excise duty and removed counter-veiling duty (CVD) on imported ships and vessels. This will augment the fleet capacity of Indian flag ships including coastal ships. Besides, in the 12th Five Year Plan, an allocation of Rs. 300 crore is made for promoting coastal shipping.