

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6761
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2015
DEAD WEIGHT TONNAGE
Kalvakuntla Smt. Kavitha

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details with regard to the universally accepted norms for the dead weight tonnage;
- (b) whether the dead weight tonnage of cargo/merchant ships have been fixed vis-a-vis its size;
- (c) if so, the details with regard to size of Indian ships along with permissible limits of dead weight tonnage;
- (d) whether the dead weight tonnage of Indian vessels is low in comparison to the international vessels; and
- (e) if so, the action taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI PON. RADHAKRISHNAN)

- (a) The universally accepted norm for the total deadweight of a cargo ship is the difference between the total displacement (in tons) at the assigned summer Load Line draught (assigned in accordance with International Convention on Load Lines) and the lightship weight of the vessel. The lightship weight consists of the weight of the hull steel, machinery, other equipment and outfit of the ship. The deadweight is an indicator of the total cargo carrying capacity of a ship.
- (b) The total deadweight of a cargo ship is dependent on its size and type or proportions of the ship. Ships of similar size have comparable deadweight, but need not be the same, since the deadweight depends on the layout of compartments and deadweight / lightweight configuration of the ship.
- (c) The permissible dead weight of any ship is limited by her maximum draught to which it can be loaded, which depends on various factors such as the length of the ship, weathertight integrity and closing arrangements, stability, strength of the ship, reserve buoyancy etc. The maximum permissible draft of ships is determined based on the regulations in the International Convention on Load line, 1966.
- (d) The deadweight of a ship, having its freeboard assigned under International Convention on Load lines, 1966, remains the same irrespective of the flag of the ship.
- (e) Does not arise.