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Title: Need to permit the Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Vishakhapatnam to undertake fresh shipbuilding orders.

SHRIMATHI JHANSI LAKSHMI BOTCHA (BOBBILI): Thank you, Madam Chairman. I would like to raise a matter of urgent public importance regarding undertaking of fresh shipbuilding orders by the Hindustan Shipyard, Visakhapatnam. As we all know, HSL is a premier, pioneer shipbuilding yard of our country. Since its inception in 1941, HSL has made rapid strides in the ship building, ship repairs, refit and modernization of submarines, construction and repair of off-shore platforms, oil rigs, during the last six decades. The House will be glad to know that HSL has so far constructed and delivered about 150 vessels and repaired over 1700 vessels of all sizes and types, including hi-tech vessels. [\[R80\]](#)

HSL is presently having 19 vessels under construction and refit of a submarine worth about Rs.2,000 crore. During the last three or four years, HSL has been consistently improving its performance.

With regard to HSL, the proposal of financial restructuring is pending for a long time.

Secondly, a decision on whether HSL should be under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways or of the Ministry of Defence as a PSU is pending. An immediate decision by the Government on this would remove ambiguity/apprehensions from the minds of employees. The HSL was advised by the GoM not to take up fresh shipbuilding orders, with the result, the HSL cannot participate in tender notices and secure further orders. This is resulting in making HSL a sick company and thus further complicating the revival process. About 10,000 families both directly and indirectly depend on this PSU. Therefore, I would urge upon the Government to allow the HSL to undertake fresh shipbuilding orders immediately to make it viable and compete in the market.