

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING  
LOK SABHA  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4257**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2019

**CAPACITY OF SHIPPING SECTOR**

4257. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

पोत परिवहन मंत्री

- (a) whether the capacity of shipping sector has increased substantially and new avenues of employment has also been generated during the last five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether special strategic measures have been/are being taken by the Government to further increase the capacity to shipping and attract required investment; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR SHIPPING  
(SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA)

(a) & (b) Data on gross tonnage and number of vessels of Indian shipping fleet during the last five years is given below:

Year (As on 31 <sup>st</sup> March)	No. of Vessels	Gross Tonnage (GT)	% increase (GT) year on year
2014-15	1210	105,06,388	0.1
2015-16	1273	108,58,288	3.3
2016-17	1316	115,61,608	6.5
2017-18	1384	125,81,592	8.8
2018-19	1407	127,88,813	1.6

Source: Directorate General of Shipping.

(c) & (d) Various measures have been taken in recent years to make the shipping industry more attractive and competitive. These are reduction in GST from 18% to 5% on bunker fuel used in Indian flag vessels; providing cargo support to Indian shipping industry through Right of First Refusal (RoFR); allowing shipping enterprises based in India to acquire ships abroad and flag them in the country of their convenience; bringing in parity in the tax regime of Indian seafarers employed on Indian flag ships vis-à-vis those on foreign flag ships; removal of licencing requirement for chartering of foreign registered ships by citizens of India; encouraging coastal movement of agriculture and other commodities, fertilizer, EXIM Transshipment Containers and Empty containers etc.

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