

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS  
LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2236  
ANSWERED ON 10/12/2021

**RECRUITMENT OF MERCHANT NAVY PROFESSIONALS**

2236. SHRI SHANKAR LALWANI :

Will the Minister of PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS be pleased to state:

**पत्तन, पोत परिवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री**

- (a) whether the demand of merchant navy professionals has increased due to increasing commercial activities over the last few years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government has prepared any scheme to conduct a special recruitment drive to overcome the shortage of merchant navy officers;
- (d) if so, the time which the said drive is likely to be conducted; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF PORTS, SHIPPING AND WATERWAYS  
(SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL)

- (a) Yes Sir.
- (b) The statistics of engagement of Indian Seafarers for the last 03 years is given below :

Year	Total No. of Seafarers engaged	Growth (%)
2017	154349	7.23
2018	208799	35.27
2019	234886	12.49
2020	224478	- 4.43*

\* Employment in the year 2020 has decreased mainly due to complete stoppage of cruise shipping during the Covid 19 pandemic.

(c,d&e) India has over 4 lakh seafarers. There is no shortage of Indian Seafarers.

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