

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:239
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2003
RE EVALUATION OF MARITIME SECURITY MEASURES
MOHAN RAWALE

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have re-evaluated maritime security measures keeping in view the warning of International Maritime Organisation in the wake of rising terrorist threats;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the measures adopted for inspection of cargo before and after shipment;
- (d) whether these measures are causing delay in shipment of cargo; and
- (e) if so, the remedial steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI DILIPKUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. Following the tragic events of 11th September, 2001, the International Maritime Organization adopted new provisions in the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, 1974 and the International Code for the Security of Ships and Ports Facilities (ISPS Code) to enhance maritime security. The enhanced security measures will be applicable to foreign going merchant ships and port facilities which will become effective from 1st July, 2004. It has been evaluated that about 200 foreign going ships, 12 major ports and about 30 minor ports in the country are required to comply with the provisions of IMO's ISPS Code. The Government has nominated Director General of Shipping as the "Designated Authority" to oversee the implementation of new security regulations.

(c) & (d) : The inspection of cargo in ports is done by Customs Department based on their assessment of the need of doing so. Since the time required for the examination is in the knowledge of the shipper, the cargo is generally brought well ahead of shipment and the examination formalities are completed. Therefore, there is no delay in shipment of cargo.

(e) : Does not arise.