

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:188  
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2005  
EXPANSION OF MARITIME ENGINEERING EDUCATION  
Lahiri Shri Samik

**Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the infrastructure available in the country with regard to maritime engineering education is sufficient to cater to the present day needs;
- (b) if not, whether the Government has assessed the present day requirements of maritime professionals;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the number of maritime engineering institutions available in the country;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up more such institutions in the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken in this regard;
- (f) whether the Government also proposes to award the status of university to certain institutions particularly the Maritime Engineering Research Institute, Kolkata; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (g) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.188 FOR ANSWER ON 6TH DECEMBER, 2005 RAISED BY SHRI SAMIK LAHIRI REGARDING EXPANSION OF MARITIME ENGINEERING EDUCATION.

(a) The infrastructure available in the country for maritime engineering is satisfactory. However, in order to promote more Indian seafarers and create more job opportunities for them in international market, it will be desirable to have more infrastructure for maritime training in India.

(b) No formal assessment has been made by Government about requirement of maritime professionals. However, as per Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO) study there is worldwide shortage of 46,000 officers including marine engineers. Indian National Shipowners' Association(INSA) has also done a survey ( covering five major Indian shipping companies representing over 70% of total Indian fleet) as per which the shortage position is as under:

Particulars	Master	Chief Engineer	Officer	Chief Officer	2nd Engineer	Officer
Available slots	140	154	141	153		
Required nos.	263	287	265	285		
Nos. available	218	191	178	182		
Shortage	45	97	87	103		

As such overall, for Indian industry by way of interpolation, the projected shortage of officers at management level will be about 500. The same figure has been indicated by INSA during several meetings.

(c) The details of training institutes conducting courses for marine engineering are as under:

S. No.	Course	No. of Institutes	Annual intake	capacity
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1.	Four year BE Marine Engineering course	15	1154	
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2. One year Trainee Marine Engineering course for Graduate Mechanical Engineers	13	715
3. Two year Trainee Marine Engineering for diploma holders	5	145
4. Three year Alternate Training Scheme (ATS)	3	92
Total	36	2106

(d) & (e) Government does not propose to set up any maritime training institute including maritime engineering research institutes in public sector. However, Govt. considers proposals favourably from the private sector for setting new institutes especially in marine engineering if they meet laid down norms.

(f) & (g) In order to make suitable changes in the institutional framework for imparting maritime training in India the Government have established a Society namely Indian Institute of Maritime Studies (IIMS) on 6th June, 2002 placing the four Government-run- maritime institutions within the domain of this Society. This is the first step towards setting up of Indian Maritime University (IMU). An Expert Committee was constituted by this Ministry, which included representatives of University Grants Commission (UGC) to look into the feasibility of formation of an IMU. The committee has recommended formation of IMU by an Act of Parliament under the aegis of this Ministry. Government is considering these recommendations and details are being worked out.