

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3082  
ANSWERED ON:05.09.2007  
INSPECTION OF SHIPS  
Vallabhaneni Shri Balashowry

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

- (a) whether the inspection of ships over 15 years old has been undertaken;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of ships inspected till date and guidelines in this regard?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): Instructions have been issued on 10th July, 2007 to Mercantile Marine Department and Indian Register of Shipping to carry out inspection of Offshore Supply Vessels (OSVs) of more than 15 years old. As per existing instructions, other ships like oil tankers above 15 years old are required to undergo "Condition Assessment Scheme" (CAS), according to which the structural condition of the vessel is examined by the maritime administration. Similarly, bulk carriers are subjected to enhanced survey requirements, i.e. detailed survey procedures. Further, the surveyors of Mercantile Marine Departments (MMDs) under the Directorate General of Shipping carry out flag state inspection of all Indian flag ships at least once in a year when they are in Indian ports. This is over and above, the annual survey and inspection carried out by the respective classification societies who have been delegated powers by the Directorate General of Shipping.

In addition, all vessels are subjected to Safety Management Audit twice in five years. Deficiencies recorded during the inspection are rectified before the vessel proceeds to sea. The above inspections are carried out in accordance with the provision of Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 and the rules framed thereunder, International Maritime Organization (IMO) Conventions and Protocols ratified by India and various Notices/Circulars/Guidelines issued by the Directorate General of Shipping, Mumbai from time to time.

After the issue of instructions of 10th July, 2007, so far thirteen OSVs have been inspected.