

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4171
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18TH JULY, 2019

TREATMENT OF SEAFARERS

4171. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

पोत परिवहन मंत्री

- (a) the details of foreign seafarers held captive in our jails along with the status of their cases;
- (b) whether India is pursuing with IMO convention on "Fair Treatment of Seafarers" and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of Indian and Foreign ships abandoned by the seafarers in Indian economic zones during the years 2018 and 2019;
- (d) the action taken against the owners of these ships;
- (e) the details of Indian seafarers reported missing or dead during service on Merchant ships during the said period; and
- (f) the details of compensations released till now to the victims' families along with the unsettled claims in this regard?

ANSWER

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

- (a) Data on foreign seafarers held captive in our jails is not maintained by the Ministry of Shipping.
- (b) IMO resolution on 'Fair Treatment of Seafarers' are guidelines of recommendatory nature. The ILO's Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) 2006, is a mandatory convention, related to fair treatment of seafarers. India has ratified, MLC 2006 and has promulgated Merchant Shipping (Maritime Labour) Rules, 2016.
- (c) Except one instance of M.V. Tag Navya owned by M/s Tag Offshore Limited (Indian Flag), where all the crew have disembarked the vessel at Mumbai Port on the instance of an order of the Hon'ble Bombay High Court dated 15.05.2019, the Government has not come across any issue regarding Indian and Foreign ships abandoned by the seafarers in India economic zones during the year 2018 and 2019.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The number of Seafarers reported Dead or Missing during service on Merchant Ships during 2018 and 2019 is given below:

S.No.	Particulars	Year 2018	Year 2019
01.	Seafarers reported Dead	36	14
02.	Seafarers reported Missing	13	09

Source: DG (Shipping)

(f) The number of cases where compensation has been released in case of Death or Missing seafarers in 2018 and 2019 is given below:

S.No.	Particulars	Year 2018	Year 2019
01.	Compensation released in Death cases	16	05
02.	Compensation released in Missing cases	01	05

Source: DG (Shipping)

In the balance 45 unsettled cases, the compensation is pending for the following reasons:

- i) For want of Flag State Investigation report from concerned foreign states;
- ii) For want of requisite request from Next of Kin for issuance of presumed death certificate (in two cases);
- iii) Due to dispute amongst next of kin of the deceased (in one case).
