

### Parliament passed the Recycling of Ships Bill 2019 (09-12-2019)

Parliament passed a landmark “The Recycling of Ships Bill 2019” for Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships in India.

Earlier, India has acceded to Hong Kong International Convention of International Maritime Organization (an UN Specialised agency of which India is a member) for Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009 on 28th November, 2019.

The existing Shipbreaking Code (revised), 2013 and the provisions of the Hong Kong Convention, 2009 are dovetailed in this Bill.

India is a leader in the global ship recycling industry with a share of over 30 per cent of the global market. With the enactment of this bill, India will **set global standards** for safe and sound environmentally-friendly recycling of Ships, as well as ensure adequate safety of the **yard workers**.

The Recycling of Ships Act, 2019 restricts and prohibits the use or installation of **hazardous materials**, which applies irrespective of whether a ship is meant for recycling or not.

Under this Act, ship recycling facilities are required to be authorized and ships shall be recycled only in such **authorized ship recycling facilities**. This Act also provides that ships shall be recycled in accordance with a **ship-specific recycling plan**. Ships to be recycled in India shall be required to obtain a **Ready for Recycling Certificate** in accordance with the Hong Kong Convention.

The Act imposes a statutory duty on ship recyclers to ensure safe and environmentally sound removal and management of hazardous wastes from ships. Appropriate penal provisions have been introduced in the Act to deter any violation of statutory provisions.

#### Benefits

The ship-recycling industry is a **labour-intensive sector**. This bill will pave the way for more global ships to enter into Indian Shipyards for recycling and boost employment and business opportunities also.

It will raise the brand value of our Ships Recycling Yards located at Alang in Gujarat, Mumbai Port, Kolkata Port & Azhikkal in Kerala.

10% of country's Secondary steel needs, as an outcome of Recycling of Ships, will be met in an eco-friendly manner.