

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2457
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2005
PATROLLING COOPERATION BETWEEN INDIA AND SRI LANKA
Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government is aware that frequent incidence of firing at genuine fishermen along the international maritime border between India and Sri Lanka and also free movement of criminals between the two countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes for a coordinated patrolling by the Indian and Sri Lankan Navies; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

- (a) & (b): No incident of firing on Indian fishermen along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) between India and Sri Lanka has been reported in 2005 so far. Frequent illegal movement of Sri Lankan refugees between India and Sri Lanka and vice versa has been noticed. In 2005 so far, 267 Sri Lankan refugees have been arrested for illegal movement between India and Sri Lanka.
- (c) & (d): There is no proposal with the Government, at present, for a coordinated patrolling by the Indian and Sri Lankan Navies.