

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2055
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2007
INDO-US COOPERATION ON MARINE POLLUTION
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has approved the desire of Indian Navy to join Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) of US Navy in order to interdict suspicious ships on the high seas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government for early finalisation of a Maritime cooperation framework to enhance maritime security, prevent piracy and other transactional crimes at high seas;
- (d) whether India and US have agreed to cooperate on piracy and exchange of information on Marine Pollution; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) & (b): No decision on a proposal received from the Government of USA on the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) has been taken. It will not be desirable to disclose any further details in the matter in the interest of national security.
- (c) to (e): A Framework on Maritime Security Cooperation has been agreed to between the Governments of India and USA. The Framework aims to address, in a joint and combined manner as necessary, consistent with respective national legal authorities and relevant international law, maritime threats, including piracy and armed robbery at sea, threats to safety of ship, crew and property as well as safety of navigation, transnational organized crimes in all dimensions, threats from weapons of mass destruction, their delivery systems, and related materials, environmental degradation and natural disasters. According to the Framework, two countries are also to exchange information and facilitate technical assistance on combating marine pollution, as mutually agreed.