

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1649
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011
NAVAL EXERCISE
Shantha J.

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Malabar-class Naval exercises undertaken so far, year-wise and location-wise;
- (b) the countries which participated in these exercises including the purposes thereof;
- (c) whether Indian soldiers get to handle the naval and strategic assets of participating navies; and
- (d) if so, the details of the agreed protocol for such exercises?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (d): Thirteen exercises of MALABAR series have so far been conducted. Out of 13 exercises, 11 have been held off Indian Coast and 2 in the Pacific. The exercises were held in the years 1992, 1995, 1996, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007 (twice), 2008, 2009 and 2010. MALABAR is an annual bilateral exercise between Indian Navy and US Navy. On two occasions, Japanese Navy and one occasion Australian and Singaporean Navies have participated in the same.

The objective of conducting Malabar exercises with US Navy is to promote mutual cooperation, and gain from the experience of the other side, especially in the field of advance technology available with them. It also facilitates inter-operability in times of need in situations like disaster management, etc.