GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:300
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2011
COASTAL SECURITY
Rane Dr. Nilesh Narayan

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is giving priority to coastal security in view of the constant threats of terrorist attacks through the sea route including Mumbai;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the coastal police stations set up/proposed to be set up in the country including in the Konkan coast of Maharashtra, State-wise;

(c) whether there is any proposal to build roads along the entire coastline to ensure effective patrolling in the coastal areas; and

(d) if so, the details of the surveys undertaken, funds allocated and work executed, State-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.300 FOR 23.08.2011

(a) & (b): Subsequent to the Mumbai incident of 26/11, the entire coastal security scenario of the country has been subjected to multi-level, inter-ministerial review by the Government of India and several important decisions/initiatives have been taken. These are highlighted below:-

(i) The Coastal Security Scheme Phase - I which provides for 73 Police Stations, 97 Check Posts, 58 Out Posts, 30 Barracks, 204 boats, 153 Jeeps and 312 Motorcycles has been implemented.

(ii) The Indian Navy has been designated as the authority responsible for overall maritime security which includes coastal security and offshore security. The Indian Coast Guard has been additionally designated as the authority responsible for coastal security in territorial waters including areas to be patrolled by Coastal Police. The Director General Coast Guard has been designated as Commander Coastal Command responsible for overall coordination between Central and State agencies in all matters relating to coastal Security.

(iii) Following a vulnerability/gap analysis and the inputs received from the Coast Guard and coastal States/Union Territories, a Coastal Security Scheme Phase II has been approved and its implementation over a period of five years has commenced with effect from 1st April, 2011. The Scheme provides for 131 Marine Police Stations, 60 jetties, 10 marine operation centers, 180 boats, 35 RIBs (Rigid Inflatable Boats), 10 large vessels (A&N), 131 Four wheelers and 242 motorcycles. Details of coastal police stations set up/proposed are at Annexure.

(iv) Ministry of Shipping has been mandated to streamline the process of compulsory registration of all types of vessels, i.e. fishing as well as non-fishing vessels, and also to ensure fitting/ provision of Automatic Identification System (AIS) on these boats.

(v) Department of Fisheries is taking steps to issue biometric ID cards to all the fishermen.

(vi) The Registrar General of India (RGI) has been mandated to issue Multi-purpose National Identity Cards (MNICs) to the population in the coastal villages, including fishermen.

(vii) The Coast Guard is creating a chain of radar sensors along the coastline. It is also setting up 9 additional coast guard stations on the western coastline of the country.

(viii) Standard operating procedures for all coastal States/UTs has been finalised.

(ix) Navy has set up 4 joint operation centre at Mumbai, Visakhapatnam, Kochi and Portblair under the charge of existing naval C-in-Cs as the C-in-Cs Coastal Defence. A Sagar Prahari Bal with a special force comprising in 1000 personnel and 80 Fast Interceptor Crafts for force security protection of naval bases and co-located vulnerable areas and vulnerable points is also being raised/equipped.

(x) Joint coastal security exercises like 'Sagar Kavach', conducted biannually, have been very useful and have ushered in an era of synergy in joint operations. Modalities have been worked out to disseminate the lessons learnt in each exercise for the benefit of all other coastal States/UTs. The lessons learnt are being communicated to all stake-holders, to fill the gaps.

(c): No, Madam.

(d): Does not arise.