

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2854

ANSWERED ON:12.12.2011

THREAT TO COASTAL SECURITY

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Bhoi Shri Sanjay;Bhujbal Shri Sameer ;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Panda Shri Baijayant;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the vast coastline of the country is still vulnerable to piracy and terrorist outfits;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the measures being taken to secure the vulnerable tracts of the coastline including the coastal areas of Maharashtra and Gujarat;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to procure patrol boats to be given to the coastal states to intensify vigil along the coastline under the Coastal Security Scheme Phase-II;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the states to be covered under the said scheme;
- (e) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and
- (f) the other steps being taken to strengthen the coastal security system?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (f): There are no specific inputs yet. Government attaches utmost importance to nation's coastal security. Vigilance and surveillance including on the western coast has to be constantly maintained. Towards this end, both Navy and Coast Guard have been strengthened in terms of assets, equipments, manpower and infrastructure in coastal states and island territories. Various measures to strengthen Coastal Security include improving surveillance mechanism and enhanced patrolling by following an integrated approach. Joint operational exercises are conducted on regular basis with Navy, Coast Guard, Coastal Police, Customs and other stakeholders to check the effectiveness of new approach adopted for security of coastal areas including island territories. The intelligence mechanism has also been streamlined with the creation of Join Operation Centers and multi-agency coordination mechanism. Other measures include setting up of a chain of Coastal Radar Stations covering the country's entire coastline and Islands.

Coastal Security Schemes Phase-II of the Ministry of Home Affairs proposes to procure 180 patrols boats inter-alia other assets for all the nine coastal States and four Union Territories over the next five years with an outlay of approximately Rs.1,579.91 crores.