

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:438
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2012
CHINESE NAVAL BASE
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether China has decided to build a naval base at Seychelles Island in Indian ocean;
- (b) if so, whether the Government has taken any precautionary steps in view of the seriousness of presence of China in Indian ocean;
- (c) whether any efforts are being made by India to increase its naval capacity in view of and building of aircraft carrier and naval fleet in Seychelles by China; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS(SMT. PRENEET KAUR)

(a) to (d) Government is aware that the Chinese Ministry of National Defence has stated that ships from the Chinese PLA Navy on anti-piracy duties in the Indian Ocean would make calls at ports in Seychelles for resupply of essential commodities. China participates in international anti-piracy patrols off the coast of Somalia under the Shared Awareness and Deconfliction (Shade) programme along with India, US, EU and other countries of the region. Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.