

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:312  
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2012  
NAVAL PRESENCE OF CHINA IN IOR  
Semmalai Shri S.

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has taken cognisance of the growing naval presence of China in and around the Indian Ocean Region (IOR);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the measures being taken / proposed to be taken to contain the emerging security threats in the IOR?

**Answer**

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

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 312 FOR ANSWER ON 3.9.2012

The Government is aware of Chinese participation in the Indian Ocean Region in projects like ports' development and deep sea mining etc.

Majority of world's oil and gas trade originates in the Gulf and West Africa and transits through the Indian Ocean. The maritime traffic, for ensuring discipline and safe passage across seas, uses the Sea Lines of Communications (SLOCs) which are governed by the United Nations Convention for the Laws of the Seas (UNCLOS) and International Maritime Law.

Government keeps a constant watch on all developments concerning our national security and commercial interests and takes all necessary measures to safeguard them in accordance with the prevailing security situation and strategic considerations.