GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:167
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2009
UPGRADING COASTAL SECURITY
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai;Veljibhai Jat Poonamben

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken adequate steps against the threats of terrorist attacks from coastal areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is any proposal to set up more coastal police stations and provide more boats for patrolling to thwart seaborne infiltration and attacks;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (e) whether in view of fresh inputs of threat perception, any review on coastal security has been made; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

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

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.167 FOR 01.12.2009 REGARDING "UPGRADING COASTAL SECURITY"

- (a) & (b): Yes, Madam. A comprehensive Coastal Security Scheme, which is supplemental in nature, is under implementation in nine coastal States and four Union Territories from 2005. In addition, the Government have taken following important decisions for further strengthening of maritime and coastal security:
- # 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 is 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.
- # The implementation of ongoing Coastal Security Scheme has been expedited.
- # The supply/delivery of interceptor boats has been started from April, 2009.
- # The Department of Shipping and DG(Shipping) are taking necessary steps for registration of all the fishing/non-fishing boats plying in Indian waters and installation of navigational and communication equipments on these boats.
- # The Department of Fisheries has taken up the project of issuance of ID cards to all the fishermen.
- # The Registrar General of India is also implementing a project of issuance of Multi-purpose National Identity Cards (MNICs) to the coastal population of the country.
- (c) & (d): Multi-level discussions and meetings have been held in the Government for further strengthening of maritime and coastal security. The coastal States and Union Territories have carried out vulnerability/gap analysis jointly with Coast Guard to firm up their additional requirements in respect of additional coastal police stations, boats, vehicles etc. and submitted their proposals for formulation of Phase-II of the Coastal Security Scheme. The proposal for additional 131 coastal Police Stations and 173 boats is under consideration.
- (e) & (f): A comprehensive and periodic review of maritime and coastal security is being carried out in Government at various levels. Inter-ministerial meetings are being held regularly.'National Committee for Strengthening Maritime and Coastal Security against threats from sea' has been constituted under the chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary, which had its meeting on 04-09-2009.