

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:75

ANSWERED ON:05.08.2013

NATIONAL OIL SPILL DISASTER CONTINGENCY PLAN

Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan has been discussed in the recently concluded meeting;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of the representatives of various Ministries, Departments and other stakeholders participated in the said meeting;
- (d) the details of the suggestions made by various participants during the said meeting; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken by the Government to strengthen the implementation / preparedness of contingency plan in case of any emergency in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) Yes, Madam.
- (b) The National Oil Spill disaster contingency plan was discussed at the 18th National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan and Preparedness meeting held on 31st May, 2013 at Dehradun.
- (c) A total of 69 representatives from various ministries, Indian Navy & Indian Coast Guard, Central and State Pollution control boards, Port authorities and oil companies participated in the meeting.
- (d) During the said meeting suggestions made by the participants included providing email copy of all notices and circulars, updation of Facility Oil Spill Contingency Plans, conduct of joint inspections of ports and oil agencies, training of responders for handling oil spill response equipment, maintenance of pollution response inventory at ports and conversion of international conventions into national legislation.
- (e) The Government of India has initiated various measures to ensure that Oil Spill at Sea is given top priority by all the concerned agencies. Pollution response teams have been established by the Indian Coast Guard at Mumbai, Chennai and Port Blair. Further, a pollution response centre is also established at Vadinar, Gujarat. Two dedicated pollution response vessels have been commissioned and pollution response equipment have been procured. To ensure response preparedness regular training and exercises are conducted by the Indian Coast Guard.