

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5281
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2015
DECOMMISSIONING OF INS VIRAAAT
Hari Shri G.;Kothapalli Smt. Geetha

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposed decommissioning of the aircraft carrier INS Viraat next year is likely to affect the Navy's operational plans, readiness or capability;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Navy has mastered the art of carrier operations over five decades ago and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether INS Vikramaditya was fully integrated in phases and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Navy had a streamlined refit and maintenance schedule for all kinds of platforms and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) & (b): No, Madam.

(c) Indian Navy has been successfully undertaking Carrier – borne operations since induction of the first Aircraft Carrier INS Vikrant in 1961 and as such it has gained adequate proficiency in carrier operations.

(d) Integration of INS Vikramaditya with Western Fleet has been completed during 2014 and its combat worthiness was assessed during the recently concluded Theatre Level exercise (TROPEX-15).

(e) Operation-cum-Refit Cycle (OCRC) is promulgated for all naval ships dictating the time- periods during which a ship is available for operations, followed by refit. In addition, short maintenance periods namely, Self Maintenance Period (SMP) and Assisted Maintenance Period (AMP) are also planned during the operational period. Annual Refit Conference and Mid-Year Refit Review are scheduled every year to review the progress / initiate actions for timely completion of refits.