

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

RAJYA SABHA

QUESTION NO 21.04.2010

ANSWERED ON

SOPHISTICATED HARDWARES FOR COASTAL SURVEILLANCE .

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Shri Vijay Jawaharlal Darda

Will the Minister of COASTAL DEFENCE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether in view of 26/11 terror strikes in Mumbai, will coastal surveillance through sophisticated deployment of coastal radars, cameras, AIS (Automatic Identification Systems) and other sensors to dynamically locate and track vessels, be taken up;
- (b) if so, what is the time-frame for covering our entire territorial waters, maritime boundaries, coastal areas, etc.; and
- (c) whether the existing hardware of ships, coastal surveillance aircrafts, helicopter, etc. is adequate to avoid recurrence of terror attacks?

ANSWER

(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

MINISTER OF DEFENCE

(a) to (c): Government has accorded top priority to strengthening the mechanism for ensuring overall coastal and maritime security of the country by way of increased coastal surveillance and deployment of assets of both Navy and Coast Guard. An integrated approach has been put in place. The intelligence-sharing mechanism has been streamlined through the creation of Joint Operation Centres and multi-agency coordination mechanism. Joint and operational exercises are taking place on regular basis between Navy, Coast Guard, Coastal Police and Customs in order to check the effectiveness of the new systems. Further, procurements of assets for the Indian Navy and the Indian Coast Guard is an important ongoing process. Installation of coastal radars, etc is an essential part of this process.