

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.981
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.03.2017

CHINA'S POSITION IN ARABIAN SEA

981. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether China has strengthened its position in the Arabian sea;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether Pakistan is helping China in this matter; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to protect the security interests of the country?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (c) Government is aware of China's maritime activities in the Arabian Sea and adjoining regions, including its interest in developing ports in the littoral countries in the region. China is engaged in development of the Gwadar Port in Baluchistan and has conveyed its intention to link up Gwadar Port with Xinjiang Uighur Autonomous Region through transport and energy infrastructure. Government has also seen reports regarding Chinese submarines visiting Karachi harbour in Pakistan and China conducting joint naval exercise with Pakistan in November 2016 in the Arabian Sea.

(d) Government keeps a constant watch on all developments having a bearing on India's security and takes all necessary measures to safeguard it.
