

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 284
ANSWERED ON 13/08/2026

PROTECTION OF INDIA'S MARITIME INTERESTS

284. SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has reviewed recent geopolitical developments in the Indo-Pacific region and their implications for India's maritime security and trade interests;
- (b) whether India has strengthened strategic cooperation with friendly countries to ensure secure sea lanes and regional stability;
- (c) the measures taken to safeguard India's maritime economic interests through diplomatic engagement; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to further enhance India's role in regional maritime cooperation initiatives?

ANSWER

THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER
(DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (D) OF THE RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 284 FOR REPLY ON 13.08.2026 REGARDING
"PROTECTION OF INDIA'S MARITIME INTERESTS"

Government closely monitors all developments in the Indo-Pacific region having a bearing on India's security and economic interests and continuously takes appropriate measures to secure them.

In the context of recent geopolitical developments Government engaged closely with all its partners in the region, at all levels, including at the highest levels. Prime Minister has recently engaged with leaders of Japan, Vietnam, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Indonesia, Mauritius, Australia, New Zealand and the United States. He has also been in touch with leaders of Iran, Israel, GCC members and Jordan. External Affairs Minister has met recently with many counterparts at ASEAN, the QUAD and RoK, and visited Philippines, UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, and Bahrain.

These high level diplomatic efforts were accompanied by specific security measures including naval deployments to safeguard Indian ships, safety and security of Indian seafarers, and ensure the uninterrupted flow of essential goods to India. Indian Navy continues to cooperate with naval forces of friendly foreign countries in this regard.

Guided by Vision MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement of Security and Growth Across Regions), India has been working for an Indo-Pacific region that is free, open, peaceful and prosperous and operates in accordance with international law, in particular UNCLOS. As chair of IORA (Indian Ocean Rim Association) and IONS (Indian Ocean Naval Symposium) and an active member in several multilateral platforms including East Asia Summit, ARF, BIMSTEC ASEAN, India continues to promote bilateral and multilateral cooperation activities that aim to strengthen maritime security, disaster response and resilience, protect the maritime environment in the region and uphold international maritime law.
