

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3072**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 14.03.2018

**ACCESS TO DUQM PORT**

3072. SHRI JAYDEV GALLA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an agreement between India and Oman which paves the way for India's access to Duqm port of Oman;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the extent to which this strategic reach westwards will help India to counter China's access to Gwadar;
- (c) whether it is true that China has found that Gwadar is prone to earthquake and sent its team to assess about the same; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
[SHRI M. J. AKBAR]

- (a) Yes.
- (b) During the recent State visit of Prime Minister to Oman on 11-12 February 2018, an Annexure to the existing MoU on Military Cooperation between India and Oman was signed which relates to Duqm port in Oman. This will help Indian naval ships to inter alia, extend their anti-piracy operations in Gulf of Aden for longer durations and strengthen our bilateral strategic partnership with Oman.
- (c) & (d) Government has seen relevant media reports.

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