GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4274
(TO BE ANSWERED ON 21.03.2018)

SINDHU SADHNA

4274. SHRI GODSE HEMANT TUKARAM:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently launched the first ever indigenously built research vessel/ship 'Sindhu Sadhna' for ocean technology and research;

(b) if so, the details thereof including the cost of the ship;

(c) whether this research vessel has started its oceanographic research and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to launch more such research vessel/ship in the near future; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the other steps taken by the Government to upgrade and improve ocean technology and research?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The constituent laboratory of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), National Institute of Oceanography (CSIR-NIO), Goa has acquired a multi-disciplinary research vessel which has been named Sindhu Sadhana. The vessel has 9 laboratories, equipped for multi-disciplinary oceanographic research. An amount of Rs. 226.51 crore has been spent for vessel construction and equipments. The Sindhu Sadhana has been built indigenously and is 80 meters long and 17.6 m wide. It can accommodate 57 personnel (29 Scientists and 28 crew members). The vessel is designed for a cruising speed of 13.5 knots and has an endurance of 40-45 days.

(c) Research Vessel Sindhu Sadhana has so far completed 46 research voyages and 14 voyages towards testing and calibration of scientific equipment and machinery.

(d) Yes, Madam.

(e) Ministry of Earth Sciences has placed an order for construction of two Coastal Research Vessels (CRVs) at a total cost of Rs. 99.729 crore. The said Ministry is also in the process for acquisition of Polar Research Vessel (PRV) at an estimated expenditure of Rs. 1051.13 crore. The CRVs are used for coastal pollution monitoring, shallow water testing of various underwater components, environmental indexing of ships and coastal zones, technology services and demonstration. The PRV is expected to contribute to India's scientific expeditions towards sustaining two Indian research bases in Antarctica (Maitri and Bharti); dovetail research initiatives in the Southern Ocean domain with those in the proximal regions of the Antarctic continent; widen the thrust on Arctic research disciplines, undertaken through Indian Station Himadri, in addition to providing a suitable research platform for other tropical sea programmes.

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