

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.236  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2018

COASTAL SECURITY

236. SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:  
SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:  
SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:  
SHRI S.R. VIJAYAKUMAR:  
SHRI S. RAJENDRAN:  
SHRI SHIVKUMAR UDASI:  
KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to conduct full spectrum exercise of coastal security;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the aims and objectives thereto;
- (c) the time by which the said exercise will commence and the number of agencies / stakeholders involved in such exercise;
- (d) the other steps taken / being taken by the Government to strengthen the coastal / maritime security in the country; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to acquire modern equipments for coastal security and if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE  
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)

रक्षा राज्य मंत्री

(डा. सुभाष भामरे)

**(a) to (e): Yes, Madam. A large scale, pan-India coastal defence exercise, 'Sea Vigil' is being scheduled during the Indian Navy's biennial Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise, TROPEX-19 in January, 2019. The**

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main aims / objectives of the exercise are:-

- (i) Simultaneous activation of complete coastal security infrastructure.
- (ii) Gauge response and enhance interagency coordination.
- (iii) Identify gaps in the coastal security set up and means to mitigate the shortfalls.
- (iv) Test the information / data sharing mechanism of technical infrastructure related to coastal security.
- (v) Identify lessons to further strengthen the existing set up.

The exercise would involve participation from all stake holders in the nation's coastal security framework including the Indian Coast Guard, all coastal States, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Shipping, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Ministry of Finance (for Customs) and Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.

Threats to the security of the country through the sea route are assessed at regular intervals. Monitoring, review and assessment of the coastal security construct is an ongoing process and is undertaken on a periodic basis. The Government is implementing the Coastal Security Scheme in phases since 2005 to augment capacity & infrastructure of Police forces of Coastal States / UTs. National Committee on Strengthening Maritime and Coastal Security (NCSMCS) monitors the progress in respect of coastal security initiatives, any shortfall encountered, and decides on measures to plug the gaps.

A coastal security ring all along our coast is provided by Marine Police, Indian Coast Guard and Indian Navy. Other measures include improving surveillance mechanism, enhanced patrolling and joint operational exercises conducted on regular basis among Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guard, Marine Police, Customs and others. Patrolling the EEZ [Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard] and territorial waters (ICG) by surface and air assets, electronic surveillance of the maritime zones is undertaken using Coastal Radars, Automatic Identification System (AIS), Long Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT), etc.