

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.663
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH FEBRUARY, 2019

ADVANCE MINESWEEPERS

663. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE j{k k ea=h
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether advanced minesweepers are required to detect, track and destroy underwater mines laid by enemy forces;
- (b) if so, whether Indian navy started the process in 2005 to acquire 24 such vessels in collaboration with South Korea to guard the West and East coast and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has now cancelled the said project;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken or being taken by the Government to fill the gap of Naval requirement in the country to detect such mines in the West and East coast?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)

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(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) to (e): Process of Acquisition of eight Mine Counter Measure Vessels (MCMVs) through indigenous construction (which was revised to acquisition of two from Foreign collaborator and six from Indian Shipyard) was started in 2005. However, due to non-compliance of Request for Proposal (RFP) conditions by foreign collaborator, the acquisition process was dropped in 2014.

Subsequently, during 2015 Goa Shipyard was nominated to construct MCMVs under Transfer of Technology (ToT) from Foreign Shipyard. However due to inadequate response and non-compliance to ToT requirement, Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) cancelled the process. Global Expression of Interest (Eoi) has been issued in March 2018 again by GSL for selection of foreign shipyard as collaborator.

In the meantime, in order to meet the requirement, a contract for procurement of eight Clip Influence Sweep (CLOIS) for mine sweeping has already been concluded.
