

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.209

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11TH MARCH, 2016

JOINT MILITARY EXERCISES

*209. SHRI C. MAHENDRAN:
SHRI R. PARTHIPAN:

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

- (a) whether India has conducted any joint military exercise with Seychelles and also with Nepal;
- (b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof; and
- (c) the efforts being made to boost defence relations with above countries?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF DEFENCE

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(SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

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(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 209 FOR ANSWER ON 11.3.2016

(a) & (b): Exercise 'LAMITYE' was conducted with Seychelles from 15th to 28th February, 2016 with participation of 45 personnel from each side to enhance interoperability while carrying out counter-insurgency, counter-terrorism and anti-piracy operations at sea and land. The outcomes of the Exercise are :-

- (i) Visible professional and personal bonding between Indian Army and Seychelles People's Defence Forces personnel.**
- (ii) Senior Indian Army observers got an opportunity to interact with the senior leadership of the Seychelles People's Defence Forces and government.**
- (iii) The Seychelles leadership appreciated the Indian support to the island Nation and the positive momentum in Indo-Seychelles relations.**

Exercise 'SURYA KIRAN' was held between armies of India and Nepal from 09th to 21st February, 2016 with participation of 300 personnel from either side to enhance interoperability in jungle warfare and counter-terrorism operations in mountainous terrain and Humanitarian and Disaster Relief (HADR). The outcomes of the Exercise are :-

- (i) Evolution of combined drills for planning and conduct of tactical operations in counter-terrorism environment at unit level.**
- (ii) Better understanding of disaster response mechanism in general and role of armed forces in management of disasters.**

(c) Apart from Joint Exercises, efforts made to boost defence relations include offering training courses in Indian defence institutions, gifting of equipments, stores, etc. Assistance is also provided to Seychelles in surveillance of Exclusive Economic Zone, setting up of Coastal Surveillance Radar Systems, Hydrography surveys, etc.
