

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1959
TO BE ANSWERED ON 21ST MARCH, 2022

MARITIME COOPERATION WITH REGIONAL PARTNERS

1959. SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has developed maritime cooperation with regional partners in consonance with Government's vision of Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and present status thereof;
- (c) the steps taken to include 'Mission based Deployments' of naval ships and aircrafts to enhance maritime domain awareness, promote maritime security and address contingencies and the details thereof; and
- (d) whether India proactively engaged with regional and extra-regional maritime forces through multilateral exercises, joint surveillance, coordinated patrols to promote maritime security in the region, if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI AJAY BHATT)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Indian Navy (IN) ships and aircrafts are regularly deployed in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) to enhance maritime security and to address contingencies that may arise. In consonance with the Hon'ble Prime Minister's vision of 'SAGAR', IN has undertaken 08 missions to 16 Friendly Foreign Countries for transshipment of HADR relief materials, COVID supplies and food assistance. To enhance maritime cooperation, initiatives are being undertaken in the field of training, technical support, hydrography and conduct of maritime security operations.

(c): Indian Navy has established presence in IOR with IN ships through Mission Based Deployments with the objective of undertaking sustained surveillance to enhance Maritime Domain Awareness, address military challenges, pursue Navy-to Navy Foreign Cooperation initiatives and tackle contingencies such as piracy, drug/arms trafficking, natural calamities etc. IN maintains around the year presence in Gulf of Aden, Persian Gulf and Gulf of Oman, Approaches to Malacca Strait, Central and South Indian Ocean etc. including Air Surveillance.

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In the last two years, Indian Navy has deployed ships to 16 Friendly Foreign Countries. These deployments spanned over 215 days at sea, have delivered a cumulative assistance of more than 3,000 MT of food aid, over 300 MT Liquid Medical Oxygen, 900 Concentrators and 20 ISO containers.

(d): Yes, Sir. The operational interactions with friendly foreign countries are as under:

	Activities	Details
(i)	Joint Exclusive Economic Zone Surveillance	Maldives, Mauritius and Seychelles. MoU has been signed with Mozambique
(ii)	Coordinated Patrols	Bangladesh, Indonesia, Myanmar and Thailand
(iii)	Maritime Exercise with Friendly Foreign Countries	Placed at Annexure I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (d) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1959 FOR ANSWER ON 21.03.2022 REGARDING 'MARITIME COOPERATION WITH REGIONAL PARTNERS':

Details Of Maritime Engagements With FFCs

The details of exercises undertaken with friendly foreign countries are tabulated below:-

Sl. No.	Country	Exercise	Periodicity
Bilateral Exercises			
1.	Australia	AUSINDEX	Biennial
2.	Bangladesh	IN-BN BILAT	Annual
3.	Bangladesh	IN-BN SF Exercise	Annual
4.	France	VARUNA	Annual
5.	Indonesia	IND-INDO BILAT	Annual
6.	Japan	JIMEX	Biennial
7.	Malaysia	IN-RMNBILAT	Biennial
8.	Maldives	Ex Ekatha	Annual
9.	Myanmar	IN-MN BILAT	Annual
10.	Oman	IN-RNOBILAT	Biennial
11.	Qatar	IN-QENFBILAT	Biennial
12.	Russia	INDRA Navy	Biennial
13.	Saudi Arabia	IN-RSNF Bilateral	Annual
14.	Singapore	SIMBEX	Annual
15.	Sri Lanka	SLINEX	Annual
16.	Sri Lanka	IN-SLN SF Ex	Annual
17.	UAE	IN-UAENBILAT	Biennial
18.	UK	KONKAN	Annual
19.	USA	Ex Sangam (SF)	Annual
20.	USA	SALVEX (Salvage)	Annual
21.	Vietnam	IN-VPN BILAT	Annual
Multilateral Exercises			
1.	Australia (lead), Multilateral	KAKADU	Biennial
2.	India (lead), Multilateral	MILAN	Biennial
3.	Indonesia (lead), Multilateral	KOMODO	Biennial
4.	IONS Member Nations	IONS Exercise	Annual
5.	Israel (lead), Multilateral	Mighty Shield	Annual
6.	Japan, USA	EOD Ex 2-JA	Annual

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7.	USA (lead), Multilateral	CUTLASS Express	Annual
8.	USA (lead), Multilateral	IMX	Annual
9.	US, SE Asian countries, France, Australia	WPNS	Annual
10.	USA (lead), Multilateral	RIMPAC	Biennial
11.	USA (lead), Multilateral	Sea Dragon	Annual
12.	Australia (lead), Multilateral	Black Carillion	Annual
13.	Australia, Japan, US	MALABAR	Annual
14.	France (lead), US, Japan, Australia, India	La Perouse	Annual
15.	Singapore, Thailand	SITMEX	Annual
16.	Brazil, South Africa	IBSAMAR	Biennial
17.	Singapore, SE Asian States	MARISX	Biennial
18.	US, SE Asian countries	SEACAT	Annual
Tri-Service Exercises			
1.	ADMM Plus countries	ADMM Plus	As Scheduled
2.	Russia	INDRA (Tri Service)	Biennial
3.	Russia	VOSTOK	Annual
4.	Thailand	Ex Cobra Gold	Annual
5.	USA	Ex Tiger Triumph	Annual
