

(c) whether Government has provided adequate powers to Navy/Coast Guard to face various challenges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) Government has initiated several measures to strengthen coastal security, including surveillance mechanism therefor. For this purpose, an integrated approach has been put in place. The coastal surveillance and patrolling have been enhanced. Joint and operational exercises are taking place on regular basis among the Navy, the Coast Guard, Coastal State Police, Customs and others to check the effectiveness of the new systems. The intelligence-sharing mechanism has been streamlined through the creation of Joint Operation Centres and multi-agency coordination mechanism. Measures have also been taken to further strengthen the Indian Navy and the Indian Coast Guard. Towards this existing Naval Commanders-in-Chief are also designated as the Commander-in-Chief Coastal Defence. The Indian Coast Guard has been additionally designated as the authority responsible for coastal security in territorial waters including areas to be patrolled by coastal police.

#### **Help from foreign countries to strengthen coastal security**

†3065. SHRI BRIJLAL KHABRI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to take help from other countries to strengthen the coastal security of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There is no proposal for taking help from other countries for our coastal security.

#### **Delay in procurement of weapons for defence forces**

3066. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that procurement process takes long time for acquisition of weapons and technologies required by defence forces;

(b) if so, the reasons for such delays; and

(c) whether Government proposes to cut short such delays and time consumed in the procurement process?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Acquisition of weapons and technologies required by defence forces is carried out in accordance with the provisions of Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP). As per broad timeframe for procurement activities given in DPP, a procurement case would take up to

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.