

**Boosting indian navy capabilities**

1807. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the efforts/measures that have been taken by Government during the last two years to boost the Indian Navy, keeping in view the coastal security; and

(b) whether there is a shortage of submarines to guard the coasts of India and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH) : (a) Post 26/11, the Government has taken a number of measures to boost capacity and capabilities of Indian Navy towards strengthening maritime and coastal security of the country. It includes establishment of a National Command, Control, Communication and Intelligence (NC<sup>3</sup>I) Network for networking the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard nodes, strengthening of Joint Operations Centres, commissioning of 23 Immediate Support Vessels for offshore security and approved Induction of 80 Fast Interceptor Crafts for force protection and harbour security.

(b) The force level preparedness is a dynamic and continuous process and is based upon the threat perception. All efforts are made to ensure availability of assets as per requirements.

**Insurance scheme for porters in the indian army**

1808. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had formulated any scheme for porters, serving in the Indian Army along the inhospitable border, that will insure them and their families in case of death or disability, if so, the details thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to work out modalities for insurance scheme for such porters so that they are ready to take up such kind of risky jobs working in proximity of Line of Control?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH) : (a) to (c) Porters killed/disabled while engaged by Indian Army are covered under Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923.