

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The specifications derived for design & development of LCA MK 1-A are based on the applicable international military standards. Kaizan techniques are being adopted to ensure international standards.

**Ensuring peace and tranquillity at Indo-China border**

2591. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India and China have decided to ensure peace and tranquillity along a disputed and undermarked boundary between the two nations, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the two sides have agreed to further engage communications and exchanges between the two armed forces and, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) and (b) The two sides agree that peace and tranquillity on the border is the basis for the continued expansion of India-China relations. However, there is no commonly delineated Line of Actual Control (LAC) between India and China. There are areas along the border where India and China have differing perception of LAC. Due to both sides undertaking patrolling upto their perception of the LAC transgressions do occur. Government regularly takes up any transgression along LAC with the Chinese side through established mechanisms including Border Personnel meetings, flag meetings, meeting of Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs and diplomatic channels. Further, in order to improve exchanges between two sides, two additional Border Personnel Meeting points has been operationalised in 2015.

**Naval expertise in salvaging huge vessels**

2592. DR. K. V.P. RAMACHANDRARAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Navy does not have expertise in salvaging huge vessels and this fault line was exposed when the 110-tonne Torpedo Recovery Vessel (TRV) sank 35 nautical miles off Vizag coast recently; and

(b) if so, whether Government would consider developing in-house talent and expertise for such salvage operations instead of depending on overseas private operators?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) and (b) Indian Navy has the salvage capability for lifting 150 ton vessels from a maximum depth of

55 metres. At present, Indian Navy does not envisage operations beyond this capability. In case of need, Indian Navy uses the expertise available with professional salvage companies in India and abroad.

#### **Filling up of vacancies in the armed forces**

2593. SHRI GULAMRASOOLBALYAWI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the vacancies in the Commissioned / non-Commissioned ranks in all the three wings of Armed Forces have been filled in view of the mounting tension along the country's borders; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) and (b) Filling up the vacancies in the Armed Forces is a continuous process. Government has taken a number of measures to encourage the youth to join the Armed Forces to fill the vacancies, including sustained image projection, publicity campaign to create awareness among the youth on the advantages of taking up a challenging and satisfying career, participation in career fairs and exhibitions, media campaign etc. Besides, Government has taken various steps to make armed forces jobs attractive. Further, the needs of security are being met by the optimum utilisation of the available strength by prioritisation of activities, use of technology and reliance on the high motivation of the personnel.

#### **Compensation to farmers for acquired land**

†2594. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of farmers' land acquired by the Ministry of Defence in border districts of Jodhpur and Jaisalmer in Rajasthan during last two years, district-wise details thereof;

(b) whether it is in Government's cognizance that adequate compensation against acquired land has not been paid to farmers and, if so, by when adequate compensation will be paid to them; and

(c) the number of cases regarding compensation against acquired land subjudiced in above said districts, district-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) No land has been acquired by the Ministry of Defence during the last two years in Jodhpur and Jaisalmer Districts of Rajasthan.

(b) and (c) Not applicable in view of reply at (a) above.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.