

श्रीमती वृंदा कारत: सभापति जी, यह दुर्भाग्य का विषय है कि 3 सालों के बाद भी हमारे 200 डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स... (व्यवधान)... मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि NREGA पूरे देश के पैमाने पर कब लागू किया जाएगा ... (व्यवधान)...

श्री रघुवंश प्रसाद सिंह: माननीय सभापति जी, अभी तक गोवा राज्य और संघ शासित प्रदेशों में NREGA लागू नहीं किया गया है ... (व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I want the hon. Members to sit down ... (Interruptions)... Please go back to your seats. ... (Interruptions)... Please go back to your seats. ... (Interruptions)... I would like the hon. Members to go back to their seats. ... (Interruptions)... Please go back to your seats. ... (Interruptions)... Please go back to your seats. ... (Interruptions)... The House is adjourned for ten minutes.

The House then adjourned at thirty-seven minutes past eleven of the clock.

The House re-assembled at forty-seven minutes past eleven of the clock.

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 304 ... (Interruptions)... Please go back to your seats. ... (Interruptions)... Please go back to your seats. ... (Interruptions)... Q. No. 305 ... (Interruptions)...

* 304. [The questioner (Shri Ajay Singh Chautala) was absent. For answer *vide* page 13 *infra*.]

* 305. [The questioner (Shri Surendra Lath) was absent. For answer *vide* page 13 *infra*.]

* 306. [The questioner (Shri Laxminarayan Sharma) was absent. For answer *vide* page 14 *infra*.]

* 307. [The questioner (s) (Shri Brij Bhushan Tiwari and Shri Janeshwar Mishra) were absent. For answer *vide* page 15 *infra*.]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please go back to your seats. ... (Interruptions)... Question No. 308. ... (Interruptions)...

Security in the Indian Ocean

*308. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:††
SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is playing a major role in ensuring security in the Indian Ocean with the help of other countries and the US wants to have a more active relationship with the Indian Navy in this regard;

† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shrimati Shobhana Bhartia.

(b) if so, whether various officials of US held a series of meetings with Indian Navy including the Navy Chief on a whole range of issues including maritime security in the backdrop of threat of mass destruction; and

(c) whether both countries have felt the need to secure sea lanes which would enable the countries neighbouring these lanes all over world to prosper?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) India is one of the major littoral States in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR), Recognising its role and responsibilities in maintaining peace and security in the IOR, Indian Navy and Coast Guard carry out regular surveillance, search and rescue etc. and provide assistance to ships/boats in distress. Patrolling along India's International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL), cooperation with India's maritime neighbours in the field of sharing information on ship movement and platform signature etc. and joint exercises are some other measures for maintaining good order at sea in the region.

India also holds interactions and joint exercises with some other countries including USA. In such interactions, issues of mutual interest including providing security to sea-lanes in the IOR are also discussed.

India and USA have also agreed to the conclusion of a Maritime Cooperation Framework to prevent piracy and other transnational crimes at sea, carry out search and rescue operations, combat marine pollution, respond to natural disasters, address emergent threats etc.

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether India has associated itself with the ...(Interruptions)...US Navy to set up a...(Interruptions)...of international navy, which would work together towards the cause...(Interruptions)... If so, what action is India going to take on...(Interruptions)...to assume command and control...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Sir...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, go back to your seats. (Interruptions)

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Sir, on the current Indo-US naval exercise, I would like to ask the hon. Minister ...(Interruptions)... What is the role that India is playing? ...(Interruptions)... What is the clear objective of this exercise? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Sir, ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Sir, ...(Interruptions)...