

REPORT NO.

187



सत्यमेव जयते

**PARLIAMENT OF INDIA
RAJYA SABHA**

DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE
ON HOME AFFAIRS

**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY SEVENTH REPORT
Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations/
Observations Contained in the 177th Report on
Coastal Security Scheme**

(Presented to the Rajya Sabha on 31st July, 2015)

(Laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 31st July, 2015)



**Rajya Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi
July, 2015/Ashadha, 1937 (Saka)**

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**Rajya Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi
July, 2015/Ashadha, 1937 (Saka)**

Website: <http://rajyasabha.nic.in>
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COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE
(re-constituted w.e.f 1st September, 2014)

1. Shri P. Bhattacharya — *Chairman*

RAJYA SABHA

2. Shri K. Rahman Khan
3. Shri Avinash Rai Khanna
4. Dr. V. Maitreyan
*5. Shri Neeraj Shekhar
**6. Shri Vijay Goel
7. Shri Derek O'Brien
8. Shri Baishnab Parida
9. Shri D. Raja
10. Shri Sitaram Yechury

LOK SABHA

11. Shri Prem Singh Chandumajra
12. Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury
13. Shri Selvakumara Chinayan S.
14. Dr. Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar
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16. Shri Chandrakant Khaire
17. Shri Mallikarjun Kharge
18. Shrimati Kirron Kher
19. Shri Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu
20. Shri Kaushal Kishore
21. Shri Ashwini Kumar
22. Shri Harish Meena
23. Shri Nagarajan P.
24. Shri Baijayant "Jay" Panda
25. Shri Dilip Patel
26. Shri Lalubhai Babubhai Patel
27. Shri Natubhai Gomanbhai Patel
28. Shri Bheemrao B. Patil
29. Shri Bishnu Pada Ray
30. Dr. Satya Pal Singh
31. Shri B. Sreeramulu

* Shri Neeraj Shekhar, MP, Rajya Sabha nominated w.e.f. 29th January, 2015 to fill the vacancy caused by shifting of Shri Satish Chandra Misra, MP, RS to Committee on Finance w.e.f. 9 January, 2015.

**Shri Vijay Goel, MP, Rajya Sabha nominated w.e.f. 19th December, 2014 to fill the vacancy caused by the appointment of Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi as MOS w.e.f. 9 November, 2014.

(ii)

SECRETARIAT

Shri P.P.K. Ramacharyulu, *Joint Secretary*

Shri Vimal Kumar, *Director*

Shri Bhupendra Bhaskar, *Assistant Director*

Shri Anurag Ranjan, *Assistant Director*

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs, having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on its behalf, do hereby present this One Hundred Eighty Seventh Report on the Action Taken by Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the 177th Report on Coastal Security Scheme.

2. The One Hundred Seventy Seventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs was presented to Rajya Sabha and laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 19th February, 2014. After presentation of the Report, the copies thereof were sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs requesting them to furnish Action Taken Notes on the recommendations of the Committee contained in the Report.

3. The Ministry furnished the Action Taken Notes on the 177th Report on the Coastal Security Scheme to the Committee on 31st December, 2014.

4. The Committee in its sitting held on 5th February, 2015 heard the presentation of the Ministry of Home Affairs on the subject 'Border Management' wherein issues concerning Coastal Security were raised and the same is incorporated in this ATR at the appropriate place. The Committee also took note of the discussion on coastal security while considering the Border Management and Demands for Grants and replies to questionnaire received from the Ministry.

5. The Committee, thereafter, considered the draft 187th Action Taken Report on the recommendations/observations contained in the 177th Report on Coastal Security Scheme and adopted the same in its meeting held on 11th June, 2015

NEW DELHI;
11th June, 2015
Jyestha 24, 1936 (Saka)

P. BHATTACHARYA
Chairman,
Department-related Parliamentary
Standing Committee on Home Affairs
Rajya Sabha

ACRONYMS

ACSOCs	:	Area Coastal Security Operation Centers
AIS	:	Automatic Identification System
CPS	:	Coastal Police Stations
CSS	:	Coastal Security Scheme
DGLL	:	Directorate General of Light Houses and Light Ships
ECIL	:	Electronics Corporation of India Limited
EEZ	:	Exclusive Economic Zone
ETA	:	Expected Time of Arrival
FIC	:	Fast Interceptor Crafts
GRSE	:	Garden Reach Shipbuilders Engineers Limited
GRSE	:	Garden Reach Shipping and Engineering Ltd.
GSL	:	Goa Shipyard Ltd.
IMBL	:	International Maritime Border Line
JCP	:	Joint Coastal Patrol
LRIT	:	Long Range Identification and Tracking
MPTI	:	Marine Police Training Institutes
MPOC	:	Marine Police Operational Centers
MSS	:	Mobile Satellite Services
MPS	:	Marine Police Stations
MMD	:	Mercantile Marine Department
PN&G	:	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
AIS	:	National Automatic Identification System
NMDA	:	National Maritime Domain Awareness
NCSMCS	:	National Committee for Strengthening Maritime and Coastal Security against Threat from the Sea
OJT	:	On Job Training
ODAG	:	Offshore Defence Advisory Group
RIB	:	Rigid Inflatable Boats
RGI	:	Registrar General of India
RFID	:	Radio Frequency Identification Device
SOP	:	Standard Operating Procedures

SMB	:	State Maritime Boards
RCSOC	:	Regional Coastal Security Operation Centers
RFID	:	Radio Frequency Identification Device
SCSOC	:	State Coastal Security Operation Centers
SPM	:	Single Point Moorings
SPB	:	Sagar Prahari Bal
VATMS	:	Vessel and Air-Traffic Management System
VTMS	:	Vessel Traffic Management System

REPORT

The Action Taken Report of the Committee deals with the action taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Seventy Seventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs on the Coastal Security Scheme. The Report was presented to the Parliament on 19th February 2014.

2. Action Taken Notes (ATNs) received from the Ministry of Home Affairs in respect of the observations/recommendations contained in the One Hundred and Seventy Seventh Report have been categorized as follows:

Chapter I: The Observations/Recommendations, which have been accepted by the Government: Paras: 2.1.14,2.1.20,2.1.23,2.2.3,2.3.2,2.5.4,2.6.9,2.6.11, 2.6.13, 2.10.6, 2.10.8, 2.11.7, 2.12.14, 2.12.15, 3.4, 3.7, 3.8, 3.14, 3.32, 3.33 (of the One Hundred and Seventy Seventh Report) Total Recommendations- 20;

The Committee is pleased to note that the Ministry has accepted eighteen of its recommendations as mentioned in Chapter - I of the Report.

Chapter II: The Observations/Recommendations which the Committee does not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies: - Paras: 2.8.4, 2.8.7, 3.20, 3.24, 3.26, 3.39, 3.41 (*ibid*) Total Recommendations-7;

The Committee is convinced with the explanation furnished by the Ministry and, therefore, does not want to pursue the recommendations further.

Chapter III: The Observations/Recommendations in respect of which the Committee is not satisfied with the replies of the Ministry: Paras: 2.1.3, 2.1.12, 2.2.7, 2.6.15, 2.6.18, 2.7.5, 2.9.5, 2.9.7, 2.11.4, 2.11.8, 3.2, 3.5, 3.10, 3.12, 3.16, 3.28, 3.30, 3.37 (*ibid*) Total Recommendations- 18;

The Committee expresses its concern over the non-implementation of twenty-two of its Recommendations contained in Chapter-III and desires that the Ministry should take further necessary action and furnish convincing replies in respect of those recommendations within a time-frame of three months after presentation of the Report.

Chapter-IV: The Observations/Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government have not been received: Para: 2.1.5,2.1.7,2.1.10,2.1.16, 2.1.18, 2.2.5, 2.3.4, 2.3.6, 2.4.3, 2.7.4, 3.18, 3.22, 3.35 (*ibid*) Total Recommendations- 13;

In respect of the thirteen recommendations placed in Chapter-IV, the Committee feels that the Ministry has either furnished interim replies or couched its response in vague terms. The Committee desires that the Ministry should furnish pointed and detailed Action Taken Notes in respect of the recommendations categorized in Chapter-IV in detail and to the point, as per the intention and spirit of the recommendations of the Committee within three months.

The para-wise details of the ATNs are being discussed, as per the categorisation indicated above, in the succeeding Chapters.

CHAPTER-I

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation

Calibration of VTMS to the security needs

1.1 The Committee recommends that the request of the State Government may be considered. (Para 2.1.14)

Action Taken

1.1.1 The Indian Coast Guard have concurred to the proposal for sharing VTMS information with bonafide State agencies involved in the coastal security mechanism provided that the information has to be sourced from the main VTMs Hub.

Recommendation

1.2 The Committee agrees with the state government and is of the opinion that fishermen can be a rich source of intelligence and can definitely be cultivated as effective informers. The Central government should device a programme for imparting basic skills in intelligence gathering to the fishermen throughout the country in all coastal States. (Para 2.1.20)

Action Taken

1.2.1 It has been proposed to devise a mechanism for organizing security awareness campaign through Coastal Police with active participation of Indian Coast Guard, Department. Of Fisheries, Navy and central intelligence agencies. Fishermen community would be made aware about the security concerns of the nation and that anything concerning security coming to their notice needs to be promptly communicated by them to any of the security agencies involved in coastal security viz. Coastal Police, Coast Guard or Navy. They would be communicating the same to Deptt. Of Fisheries, which in turn, would share the input with security agencies including central intelligence agencies.

1.2.2 The Border Security Force is motivating the fishermen of Gujarat and Bengal States operating in the jurisdictional area of BSF through orientation programmes, for intelligence gathering to act as eyes and ears of Security Forces operating in this area. Surveillance and patrolling in riverine area are being enhanced and all efforts are being made to sensitize fishermen for not violating the guidelines of IB.

Recommendation

1.3. The Committee recommends that all coastal States/UTs should send their reports on construction of jetties to the Ministry of Home Affairs so that their requirements of funds for

construction of jetties may be looked into as per local conditions. It is also of the opinion that if the funds are found inadequate they may be suitably enhanced according to the requirements of concerned states/UTs. (Para 2.1.23)

Action Taken

1.3.1 The financial assistance of ₹50 lakh per jetty towards the cost of construction of jetties in States/UTs under the Phase-II of the Coastal Security Scheme was finalized at the beginning of the Scheme, subsequent upon the vulnerability/gap analysis and in consultation with all the coastal States/Union Territories. As decided by the Steering Committee in MHA for review of Coastal Security during its meeting on 07.03.2014, the States/UTs have been asked to follow the 'Maharashtra Model' of upgradation of existing jetties and have been informed to send proposals for additionality of funds if any, to MHA for needful action.

1.3.2 While the UT administration A&N Islands has stated that the sanctioned amount of ₹50 lakh is grossly inadequate since the cost of construction of Jetties in these Islands is far higher than the mainland on account of remoteness and geographical conditions and demanded that ₹30.00 crore would be required for the construction of a single new Jetty, the other States like - Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Odisha etc. have demanded that the amount may be revised upwardly the range of ₹3-5 crore. Ministry of Home Affairs is seized of this issue.

Recommendation

Goa

1.4 The Committee is not happy to note that procurement under phase-I was not completed. The Ministry may impress upon the State Government to complete the process at the earliest. This brooks no further delay. (Para 2.2.3)

Action Taken

1.4.1 Purchase of 10 Rigid Inflatable Boats under Coastal Security Scheme (Phase-I) was approved by the Cabinet Committee on Security and the Phase-I of the Scheme is already completed on 31.03.2011. The Coastal Security Scheme is a supplemental Scheme and is implemented in the Coastal States / UTs uniformly. The State Government of Goa have been requested to take necessary action in regard to procurement of 10 Rigid Inflatable Boats sanctioned under the Phase-I of the Coastal Security Scheme on priority basis.

1.4.2 Even as late as on 1st Dec., 2014 in the West Zone Committee held in New Delhi, Chief Secretary who attended this meeting was specially requested to take immediate action on this long pending issue. He has assured that he will take early action in the matter.

Recommendation

Karnataka

1.5 Preference for professional fishermen in appointments and other issues. (Para 2.3.2)

Action Taken

1.5.1 Under the scheme, manpower for the marine police personnel including technical crew for the boats is provided by the States and UTs. As per decisions taken at the Second Meeting of the Steering Committee for review of Coastal Security held on 07.03.2014, all the Coastal States/UTs have been requested to consider relaxing recruitment rules to employ Ex-Navy/Coast Guard personnel.

Recommendation***West Bengal Problems being faced in maintaining Coastal Security***

1.6 The Committee is dissatisfied by the replies given by the Ministry of Home affairs regarding the issues of inadequate technical manpower, maintenance of equipments and high cost of running the interceptor boats. Several States/UTs have similar complaints which need to be seriously looked into by the Central Government. The Ministry may examine the concern of the State Government on the high cost of POL. The Committee will deal with technical manpower and maintenance issues in the next chapter. (Para 2.5.4)

Action Taken

1.6.1 18 Interceptor Boats have been provided by MHA to the State of West Bengal under CSS Phase-I. The State Government of West Bengal has informed that in order to operate Fast Interceptor Boats in three coastal districts, 04 permanent Technical Staff and 13 Contractual Technical Staff have been engaged for patrolling along the coast as per schedule. Further, approval for engaging 47 technical staff has been given.

1.6.2 As regards high cost of running the interceptor boats, it is pertinent to say that the boats have been supplied by the Defence PSUs, namely, Goa Shipyard Ltd., (GSL) and the Garden Reach Ship-builders and Engineers (GSRS) and that the boats have been fitted with one of the best engines which consume lesser quantity of POL as compared to the other engines. Moreover, the Ministry of Home Affairs is reimbursing the POL expenses incurred by the coastal States/UTs.

Recommendation**Odisha**

1. 7 The Committee recommends that the requirement of manpower, coastal police stations and jetties may be reassessed along with the realistic requirement of funds to be provided for establishment thereof. (Para 2.6.9)

Action Taken

1.7.1 Based on the extensive inter-ministerial review of the entire coastal security scenario following 26/11, inputs received from the Coast Guard, the identification of vulnerability/gaps in the infrastructure available to coastal States/UTs and discussions/ consultations in several high level meetings, the Coastal Security Scheme (Phase-II) has been formulated. All components, including the funds to the Coastal States/UTs, were fixed and frozen at the beginning of the Scheme itself.

1.7.2 The construction cost of ₹48 lakh for Coastal Police stations is uniform for all the coastal States (except A&N Islands and Lakshadweep). The cost was fixed in consultation with the CPWD/BPR&D and was approved by the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS). The construction cost of ₹50 lakh for the Jetties was also approved by CCS. MHA has received several requests from the States for revising the cost.

1.7.3 During the Second meeting of the Steering Committee for review of Coastal Security held in this Ministry on 07.03.2014, the proposal of Government of Maharashtra to upgrade the existing 14 jetties of the Maharashtra Maritime Board (MMB) to be used by the State Coastal Police on permanent basis, instead of the construction of the sanctioned 3 jetties under Phase-II of the Scheme, was approved and the other States/UTs were also advised to consider Maharashtra model by way of upgradation of existing jetties and for any additionality of funds, the States/UTs were informed to send the proposals to MHA for needful action.

1.7.4 Regarding upward revision of cost in respect of jetties, MHA is seized of this matter.

Recommendation

Other issues raised by the State

1.8 The Committee recommends that the land for setting up of Marine Police Station inside Paradip Port may be provided at the earliest. (Para 2.6.11)

Action Taken

1.8.1 The Board of Trustees of Paradip Port Trust has already approved an allotment of one acre of Port land in favour of Home (Police) Department, Government of Odisha for construction of Marine Police Station at Paradip on lease basis for a period of thirty years with a concession to the tune of 75% on the revised market rate, in accordance with the Land Policy Guidelines, 2014 issued by the Ministry of Shipping, Government of India.

Recommendation

Release of Funds

1.9 The Committee recommends that the State Government must submit the utilization certificates to the Central Government so that further funds could be released for construction of jetties. (Para 2.6.13)

Action Taken

1. 9.1 The State Government of Odisha has since sent the utilization certificates and based on which the entire amount of ₹1175.60 lakhs have been released.

Recommendation

Lakshadweep

1.10. The Ministry of Home Affairs may prepare guidelines for off season activities of Marine Police such as in Monsoon. This may apply to other States too. Ministry of Home Affairs may carefully examine the issue. (Para 2.10.6)

1.10.1 The Committee recommends that the Ministry should coordinate with the UT Government in finalizing surveillance programme. In no circumstance can vacuum be allowed to exist in Coastal policing as it can have severe consequences for internal security. (Para 2.10.8)

Action Taken

1.10.2 Patrolling and surveillance programmes are finalized at local level by Marine Police, Coast Guard and Navy, as per local requirements. However, MHA periodically reviews the coastal security periodically along with all the stake-holders and give appropriate directions, wherever required.

1.10.3 Every month the Community Interaction Programme (CIP) is organized by the Coast Guard and, as such, the issues connected with security viz. vulnerable areas and vulnerable points is identified and the States are sensitized for taking appropriate action. Further, fisheries officials who are well-versed with local languages are deputed to coordinate the Coast Guard to conduct the CIP programme successfully.

Recommendation

Problem being faced in maintaining Coastal Security

1.11 The Committee desires that the Ministry may discuss with all States/UTs and take a decision in the matter. (Para 2.11.7)

Action Taken

1.11.1 As regards Odisha, the State Government have recruited 22 Ex-Naval Personnel for each MPS as per the guidelines under SOP issued by BPR&D, to operate the Interceptor Boats provided by MHA. Further, the Government has sanctioned @ 81 Police Personnel of different ranks for each Police Station. Altogether 405 posts have been created for existing 5 MPSs under Phase-I. Training is being imparted by Coast Guard HQ, Paradeep, phase-wise to the Personnel posted in different MPSs. As per recommendation of the Standing Committee the seafaring allowance for the boat crew need to be sanctioned.

1.11.2 18 FIBs (5 Ton/12 Ton) were provided by MHA, Gal under Coastal Security Scheme (Phase-I). 04 permanent technical staff and 13 contractual staff have been engaged for operating these FIBs to patrol along the coast as per schedule. State Government's approval has been given for engaging 47 technical staff.

1.11.3 Since the manpower for manning the CPSs, boats, etc., are to be provided by the Coastal States/UTs, the States/UTs are free to have their own nomenclature as per the local laws/conditions.

Recommendation

Andaman & Nicobar Administration

Problems being faced in maintaining Coastal Security

1.12 The Committee also takes note of the fact that the Ministry has approved a separate comprehensive security plan of A & N Islands. The Committee desires that this plan may be implemented at the earliest. (Para 2.12.14)

1.12.1 The Committee welcomes the initiative taken by the UT Government in preparing a comprehensive security plan wherein it has proposed for setting up ten Marine Operational Centres in A& N Islands at prime locations for upgrading coastal security in A&N Islands. It hopes that the Central Government would provide the necessary support needed by the UT in implementing its proposal in the larger framework of Coastal Security Scheme as envisaged by the Centre. The Ministry may also look into the funds requirements for HSD and the problem of maintenance of boats. These issues need to be looked into in view of strategic location of the islands. The Ministry may also look into the inadequate skilled manpower. (Para 2.12.15)

Action Taken

1.12.2 The Comprehensive Security Plan of Andaman & Nicobar Islands has been proposed in two parts. Part A of the Plan includes the components approved under the Coastal Security Scheme Phase-II and Part B of the Plan includes items which are required for augmentation of infrastructure for coastal security included under the 12th Five Year Plan and being implemented through the Annual Plans.

1.12.3 Regarding Part A, MHA has released ₹27.00 crore to the UT Administration for construction of 20 CPS, 10 jetties, 10 Marine Police Operation Centers and procurement of 20 four wheelers and 20 two-wheelers. In addition to this, the HSD/POL expenditure is reimbursed to the UT Admn. Further, 10 Large Vessels and 23 RIBs are under procurement for the UT.

1.12.4 As regards Part B, necessary fund provision has been kept in the MHA's budget under the 12th Plan for meeting the expenditure connected with solar power, Utility support vehicle, floating jetties/docks procurement of 10 gensets etc.

1.12.5 20 FRP boats and 20 nos. of rubberized inflatable boats have been procured.

Recommendation

Manpower Recruitment

1.13 The Committee feels that all the coastal States may face this problem. The Committee is of the opinion that the Central Government should provide assistance to the States in recruiting technical manpower as the States agencies do not have the requisite know-how and experience of doing the same. Coastal security is a joint venture of both the Governments and when there are shortcomings on the part of State Governments, the Central Government step in to help them out. (Para 3.4)

Action Taken

1.13.1 Under the scheme, manpower for the marine police personnel including technical crew for the boats is provided by the States and UTs.

1.13.2 Presently they are drawn from the regular civil police and are deployed for a period of 3-5 years after that, they are posted back to their parent cadre thereby causing shortage of technical manpower. In Tamil Nadu, a Coastal Security Group is in operation in the State since 1994, with a task-force of 500 dedicated personnel working on regular basis. Other supervisory staff are re-employed on deputation from other sources for a fixed term of 4 years.

1.13.3 The Second Steering Committee during its meeting held on 07.03.2014, examined the Tamil Nadu Model and it was suggested that all Coastal States/UTs should have a permanent and dedicated Marine Battalion of 1000-2000 personnel on the lines of 'Creek Crocodile' being raised by BSF. It was also suggested that the States/UTs may consider relaxing recruitment rules to employ Ex-Navy/Coast Guard personnel and fishermen.

1.13.4 The Coastal States/UTs have suggested that the proposed Marine India Reserve Battalion for all the Coastal States/UTs should totally be funded by the Central Government, which would go a long way in resolving the issue of Marine Police force in the country. It was decided that coastal States/UTs will submit their comments to MHA on the proposal along with their requirement of manpower for the proposed Marine IRBs.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

1.13.5 The Committee strongly feels that requisitioning of personnel from regular civil police should be in a such way that the personnel returning to parent cadre after deployment for a period of 3-5 years do not cause shortage of technical manpower and the replacement should be available beforehand. The Committee also desires that the Ministry should take an early decision on the proposed Marine India Reserve Battalions (MIRB). An early decision may be taken on the central funding for Battalion.

Recommendation

Coordination and consultation between the Central and State Governments

1.14 The Committee hopes that some of the measures as undertaken by the Ministry would help in resolving the concerns of the State Government. It also recommends that the officials of the coastal States and the Ministry of Home Affairs should meet more often so that the suitable means and ways may be chalked out to implement the scheme satisfactorily. (Para 3.7)

Action Taken

1.14.1 All the Coastal States/UTs have been asked to submit the Monthly Progress Report on the implementation of the Coastal Security Scheme (Phase-II) for reviewing the physical progress of the same, which is being followed scrupulously. The situation is being reviewed at the level of Secretary (BM)/JS(BM) periodically and in case of shortfall, if any, the concerned States/UTs are asked to speed up the implementation process as per schedule.

1.14.2 Monitoring of the implementation of Coastal Security Scheme is being done by National Committee for Strengthening Maritime and Coastal Security against Threats from the Sea (NCSMCS) headed by Cabinet Secretary, Steering Committee in MHA headed by Secretary (BM) and Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee periodically from time to time. So far, 9 meetings of NCSMCS have been held on September 4, 2009; January 22, 2010, May 14, 2010, November 23, 2010, 29th July, 2011, 22nd June, 2012 and 30th November, 2012, 6th September, 2013 and 3rd July, 2014.

1.14.3 Secretary (BM) and Joint Secretary (BM) periodically review the implementation of the Scheme. The Steering Committee for Review of Coastal Security has also been constituted in

the Ministry to review the implementation of the Scheme which met twice on 26.09.2013 & 07.03.2014 and issued several directions for speedier construction of CPSs and Jetties.

Recommendation

1.15 Coastal security set up in India is a three layer set up comprising of Navy, Coast guard and marine police. The Committee though appreciating the fact that coastal security is a team effort requiring a lot of coordination between the three agencies, still it is of the opinion that a clear demarcation of jurisdiction and responsibilities should be made. A clear hierarchy of command at national level should be established so that responsibility for commission and omission during an emergency situation could be fixed (Para 3.8)

Action Taken

1.15.1 There is a three tier Coastal Security ring all along our coast is provided by Marine Police, Indian Coast Guard and Indian Navy. The Indian Navy has been designated as the authority responsible for overall maritime security, which includes coastal security and offshore security. The Indian Coast Guard has been additionally designated as the authority responsible for coastal security in territorial waters including areas to be patrolled by the Coastal Police (0-200 nautical miles). The Director General Coast Guard has been designated as Commander Coastal Command and is responsible for overall coordination between Central and State agencies in all matters relating to coastal security. State Marine Police are guarding the coast up to 12 nautical miles.

Recommendation

Non procurement of vehicles on account of austerity measures

1.16 The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Home Affairs should take up the matter with the Ministry of Finance at the earliest for getting the proposal cleared. It also urges the Ministry of Finance to give 'one time' relaxation for purchase of vehicles in the larger national interest. (Para 3.14)

Action Taken

1.16.1 The requisite funds for the procurement of vehicles under the Coastal Security Scheme (Phase-II) have been released to Coastal States/UTs after getting necessary clearance from M/o Finance and most of the coastal States/UTs have procured the vehicles. The remaining States/UTs have been advised to immediately procure the same.

Recommendation

Security along West Bengal coast

Infiltration of foreign nationals in A&N Islands

1.17 The Committee is of the view that the security agencies including marine police need to be extremely watchful as the terrorists would be looking for new and unconventional modus operandi to make terror strikes. Remote and uninhabited Islands may provide them the much needed safe havens to regroup themselves. (Para 3.32)

Action Taken

1.17.1 In the case of West Bengal, all the 14 CPSs of South 24 Parganas, North 24 Parganas, and Purba Medinipur districts are always alert in curbing any untoward incident from seaward threat. As a precautionary measure, joint patrolling is being conducted along IMBL by the State Marine Police in co-ordination with the Indian Coast Guard, and BSF to check infiltration from neighboring countries and anti-national activities by the intruder in Indian Territory. For effective surveillance, especially in Sunderban areas, Electronic Surveillance system will be adopted as a proposal in this regard to MHA, Government of India for obtaining approval will be submitted. The same is under process.

1.17.2 Further, in Odisha, all the CPSs have been alerted to remain watchful in thwarting any incursions by foreigners and conduct patrolling in the shallow waters area in close cooperation with Indian Coast Guard and Indian Navy.

1.17.3 In the case of Andaman & Nicobar Islands, ICG has taken special measure for protection of A & N Islands. ICG has one regional HQ and two district HQ one each in North and South group of Islands. In addition, two independent ICG stations one at Port Blair and Hut Bay are also functioning.

1.17.4 ICG has issued 62 Distress Alert Transmitters (DAT) in year 2008-2009 in Phase I and 66 DATs in year 2010-11 in Phase II to fishermen. 20 marine police stations have been upgraded under the scheme II (₹20 lakh per CPs). It is proposed to create ten Marine Operational Centers (MOCs) with cost of ₹13.50 crore in the scheme II to organize patrolling, raids and surveillance in remote and scattered Islands. These Centres will be established at Land Fall, Diglipur, Interview Islands, Kadamtala, Flat Island, Havelock, Port Blair and one each at Tillong chang, Nancowry and Indira Point. Funds have already been released for creation of MOCs.

1.17.5 Ten 12 ton boats, 11 light vehicles, 7 Multi utility vehicles and 20 motor-cycles are provided for A & N Islands under the Scheme I and it is proposed to provide 10 large vessels and 23 Rigid inflatable boats (RIBs), funds for construction of 10 Jetties 20, four wheelers and 20 motor cycles have been provided in the scheme I

1.17.6 In addition to above, a comprehensive security plan for A & N Islands have been approved on 11.11.2011 for implementation over a period of 8 years in 3 phases, (2012-2015, 2015-2017 and 2017-2020). The plan include:

- two utility support vessels for A & N police,
- centralized marine police control room at Port Blair,
- high power marine HF trans-receivers,
- creation of posts for manning of vessels,
- UAV for ten C-143 boats and MOCs,
- under water diving clearance unit,
- marine helicopters and associated infrastructure and,
- fiber coated dinghies for marine police.

FURTHER OBSERVATIONS

1.17.7 Early decision should be taken to adopt electronic surveillance system particularly in Sundarban area.

Recommendation

1.18 The Committee also recommends that the security agencies including marine police should always be watchful in thwarting any incursions by foreigners (Para 3.33)

Action Taken

1.18.1 A three tier coastal security ring is provided by Marine Police, Indian Coast Guard and Indian Navy. Surveillance of the coastline is maintained by IN and ICG through deployment of ships and aircraft for patrolling. Joint operational exercises are conducted on regular basis among, Navy, Coast Guard, Coastal Police, Customs and others for security of coastal areas including island territories. The intelligence mechanism has also been streamlined through the creation of Joint Operation Centres and multi-agency co-ordination mechanism. A chain of radars and a network of Automatic Identification System (AIS) covering the country's coastline is being operationalised for round the clock surveillance.

1.18.2 It is relevant to mention that periodic input/analysis on security related issues such as threats from groups like the Lashkar-e-Taiyba (LeT) to our coastal security are shared with the concerned agencies. In addition, inputs such as poaching by Myanmar fishermen and Rohingya Muslims fleeing Myanmar by sea likely to impact security of Andaman & Nicobar group of Islands have also been shared.

CHAPTER-II

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DOES NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES

Recommendation

Tamil Nadu

2.1 The Committee hopes that the issues related to berthing of boats would be resolved as a result of measures undertaken by the Ministry. The Ministry may review the matter on a regular basis. (Para 2.8.4)

Action Taken

2.1.1 During the review of the coastal security, by the NCSMCS in its 9th Meeting held on 03.07.2014, all the coastal State Governments/UT Administrations had apprised the Committee that they give priority berthing for security related vessels and allotment of land for security related buildings in all major and non-major ports.

Recommendation

2.2 The Committee recommends that the necessary land allocation may be done at the earliest so that the marine police station could be established. It further recommends that an all out effort should be made to resolve all such issues within a stipulated time period. It also urges the Port Authorities to look into the suggestion of providing cut land at nominal rent on lease. The Committee also urges the concerned agencies to put in place a system for frequent interaction with common people of coastal areas. Such an exercise should be conducted in the local dialect as far as possible so that intelligence gathering could be enriched further. (Para 2.8.7)

Action Taken

2.2.1 M/o Shipping had already taken a policy decision to delegate the powers to the Port Trust authorities for allotment of land to the States for the construction of CPSs and that the powers have also been delegated to the Port Trusts.

2.2.2 The CIPs with fishermen initiated by the Coast Guard in the 1990s have helped in understanding the micro issues of fishermen. It is purely a voluntary participation by fisher folks. The participation of fishermen in CIPs varies from 25 fishermen in fishing villages of A&N Islands which are thinly populated and up to 60 fishermen in densely populated fishing villages along coastal States/UTs.

2.2.3 On finalization of dates and place for conducting a Community Interaction Programme (CIP), a team comprising representative of Coast Guard, Indian Navy, Marine Police and Fisheries Deptt. Of State/UT and headed by an officer of commandant rank from Coast Guard

is deputed. Coast Guard makes efforts to nominate Coast Guard personnel with local dialect. The assistance of Fisheries Department representative or local fishermen conversant in Hindi/ local language are sought for effective communication with fishermen.

2.2.4 The Committee, in its meeting held on 5th February, 2015, was updated by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the issue of interaction with common people of coastal areas as under:-

“Indian Coast Guard has been undertaking community interactions programmes for the fishermen to bring in awareness about safety issues at sea. The community interaction programmes are also conducted to sensitize the fishing community on the prevailing security situation and develop them to be the “Eyes and Ears” for intelligence gathering. Since 2009, a total of 3120 community interaction programmes have been conducted till 31.12.2014.”

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

2.2.5 The Committee feels that the Ministry of Home Affairs must take up the issue of land allocation for construction of Coastal Police Stations (CPSs) with Ministry of Shipping and request them to direct Port Trust to allot land for CPSs on priority basis in a time bound manner.

Recommendation

Land acquisition for setting up of coastal security infrastructure

2.3 The Committee feels that setting up of coastal security infrastructure should not get stuck on account of failure in acquiring land for the purpose. It recommends that review of the progress may be done from time to time so that the projects are not unnecessarily delayed, keeping in mind their importance. Wherever there are issues of land acquisition, the Ministry may take up with the states for resolving them so that infrastructure is in place. (Para 3.20)

Action Taken

2.3.1 MHA: In so far as implementation of the Phase-II of the Coastal Security Scheme is concerned, land for the 114 of the total sanctioned 131 Coastal Police Stations have been acquired and the process to acquire land for the remaining 17 is progressing. The matter is being reviewed by this Ministry on monthly basis.

Recommendation

Need for recruiting people well-versed with local language

2.4 The Committee, however, recommends that all possible efforts should be made to recruit people knowing local dialect so that interaction with local fishermen becomes easy and smooth. The fact that fishermen are the ‘eyes and ears’ of the coast further emphasizes the importance of knowledge of local dialect necessary for intelligence gathering. Any literature as may be necessary may be distributed to fishermen in local language. (Para 3.24)

Community interaction programmes

2.4.1 The Committee is of the view that the community programme should gradually evolve from a body with voluntary nature to a body with semi-professional nature on the lines of civil defence so that they can also play a vital role in coastal security. Local fishermen may also be provided orientation programmes to impart necessary skills for intelligence gathering and keeping vigil on the coast while continuing with daily professional chores. (Para 3.26)

Action Taken

2.4.2 Indian Coast Guard has been undertaking community interactions programmes for the fishermen to bring in awareness about safety issues at sea. The community interaction programmes (CIP) are also conducted to sensitize the fishing community on the prevailing security situation and develop them to be the “Eyes and Ears” for intelligence gathering. Since 2009, a total of 3043 Community Interaction Programmes have been conducted till date.

2.4.3 The CIPs with fishermen initiated by the Coast Guard in the 1990s have helped in understanding the micro issues of fishermen. It is a purely a voluntary participation by fisher folks. The participation of fishermen in CIPs varies from 25 fishermen in fishing villages of A&N Islands which are thinly populated and up to 60 fishermen in densely populated fishing villages along coastal States/UTs.

2.4.4 On finalization of dates and place for conducting a Community Interaction Programme (CIP), a team comprising representative of Coast Guard, Indian Navy, Marine Police and Fisheries Deptt. Of State/UT and headed by an officer of commandant rank from Coast Guard is deputed. Coast Guard makes efforts to nominate Coast Guard personnel with local dialect. The assistance of Fisheries Department representative or local fishermen conversant in Hindi/local language are sought for effective communication with fishermen.

Recommendation

Registration of the fishing vessels and boats

2.5 The Committee notes that more than ninety percent of fishing vessels and boats have been registered. It feels that by keeping track of such vessels, the security agencies would be in a better position to keep a vigil on such vessels. The Committee recommends that registration of all fishing vessels may be completed at the earliest. (Para 3.39)

Action Taken

2.5.1 The Department through the National Information Centre (NIC) has devised a uniform web based registration regime (ReALCraft) for online registration of fishing vessels. ReALCraft is a work flow based online application system for registration of all category fishing vessels of less than 20 m under MS Act., and issuance of fishing license under the Marine Fisheries Regulation Acts (MFRAs). Registration under the newly developed system is being done. As on 3rd June, 2014, a total of 1,98,787 fishing vessels have been registered under the new system, out of total reported strength of fishing vessels of 1,99,141 (99.82%).

Recommendation***Fishermen Awareness Programme***

2.6 The Committee urges the Ministry of Agriculture through its Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries to formulate a Scheme to bring about awareness among the fishermen of coastal States/UTs. It also urges the Ministry of Home Affairs to coordinate with it and other relevant agencies to prepare the modalities of such a programme for early implementation. It also recommends that the necessary budgetary allocation in this regard be made. (Para 3.41)

Action Taken

2.6.1 The D/o. AHD&F M/o. Agriculture, at present, has no scheme to take up programme for awareness building to fishermen on coastal security and intelligence gathering activities etc. Besides, the Department has no separate budgetary allocation for taking up such security related schemes and the budgetary allocated to the Department is only sufficient for running the on-going fisheries development schemes and programmes.

2.6.2 However, Indian Coast Guard has been undertaking community interactions programmes for the fishermen to bring in awareness about safety issues at sea. The community interaction programmes (CIP) are also conducted to sensitize the fishing community on the prevailing security situation and develop them to be the “Eyes and Ears” for intelligence gathering. Since 2009, a total of 3043 Community Interaction Programmes have been conducted till date.

CHAPTER-III

**RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH THE COMMITTEE
HAS NOT ACCEPTED THE REPLIES OF THE MINISTRY****Recommendation**

3.1 The Committee agrees that Gujarat coast is highly sensitive due to its close proximity to a very vulnerable part of International Maritime Border Line (IMBL). The Committee is in agreement with the State Government that it needs more funds and infrastructure to improve and strengthen coastal security preparedness. The Committee recommends that under the Coastal Security Scheme (Phase -II), all the infrastructural and logistical gaps in the coastal security apparatus of the state should be filled in view of its vulnerability due to hostile atmosphere in the coastal area of Gujarat. Necessity of additional funds may be considered after discussing with State Government. (Para 2.1.3)

Action Taken

3.1.1 As envisaged in the Coastal Security Scheme, in the context of the fast changing coastal security scenario, the demands of effective coastal security has increased manifold & subsequent to the Mumbai incidents on 26/11, the entire coastal security scenario of the country has been subjected to multi-level, inter-ministerial review by the Government of India. MHA was tasked to formulate Phase-II of the Coastal Security Scheme in order to fill the gaps in close coastal patrolling along the Indian coastline.

3.1.2 Accordingly, the Coastal States/UTs were asked to undertake an exercise to identify the vulnerable gaps in consultation with Coast Guard and on the basis of this vulnerability/ gap analysis, submit future projection to MHA for formulation of a comprehensive proposal to be known as Phase- II of Coastal Security Scheme. The Coast Guard was also asked to work out in consultation with the States, additional requirement of boats to be incorporated in the Phase-II of the Scheme.

3.1.3 Based on the extensive inter-ministerial review of the entire coastal security scenario following 26/11, inputs received from the Coast Guard, the identification of vulnerability/gaps in the infrastructure available to coastal States/UTs and discussions/ consultations in several high level meetings, the Coastal Security Scheme (Phase-II) has been formulated. All components, including the funds to the Coastal States/UTs, were fixed and frozen at the beginning of the Scheme itself. Out of the total sanctioned amount of ₹131.41 Crore under the Phase-II of the Coastal Security Scheme, to be released to 13 Coastal States/UTs for development of infrastructure, a sum of ₹122.60 Crore has already been released. The balance amount would be released to the Coastal States/UTs upon receipt of the Utilization Certificates in respect of the amount already released to them.

3.1.4 In the case of Gujarat, under the Phase-I of the Coastal Security Scheme, funds to the extent of ₹58.43 crores were provided for setting up of 10 Coastal Police Stations (CPSs), 25 Check Posts, 46 out Posts and purchase of 20 Jeeps, 101 Motorcycles, Computers and equipments etc. in addition to supply of 30 Boats (20 boats of 12 Ton capacity and 10 boats of 5 Ton capacity) worth ₹124 crores.

3.1.5 Under the Phase-II of the Coastal Security Scheme, the State has been provided with a sum of ₹11.05 crore for setting up of 12 Coastal Police Stations, 5 Jetties, 12 Four-wheelers, 24 Two-wheelers and a lump sum of ₹15 lakh per CPS for purchase of surveillance equipment, Computers and Furniture etc. Besides these, 10 Nos. of 5 Ton boats worth ₹30 crore (approx.) are being provided.

3.1.6 Fully recognizing that Gujarat is extremely vulnerable to the threats from the sea due to its location in the Arabian sea and a long coast-line, it has been decided to set up a National Institute of Coastal Policing, an apex institution for imparting training to the States Marine Police personnel. Once established, the States Marine Police personnel, including the State of Gujarat, will be able to get a comprehensive training and, thus, equipped with the handling of boats and patrolling activities to a greater extent.

3.1.7 The Ministry of Home Affairs further apprised the Committee in its meeting held on 5th February, 2015 that the Phase-II of the CSS would be completed by 31.03.2016.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.1.8 The Committee agrees with State Government's view that 'one-size fits all' approach can't be adopted in Coastal Security domain due to varying vulnerability, threat perceptions and necessities of different States/UTs. Therefore, the Committee recommends that Ministry of Home Affairs should actively consider demands for additional funds so as to plug all infrastructural and logistical gaps. Implementation of CSS (Phase-II) may be completed at the earliest and all sanctioned boats must be provided to the state to augment the existing fleet. The National Institute of Coastal Policing, may be set-up, as proposed, at the earliest.

Recommendation

Integration of visual imagery from aerial surveillance and satellite imagery

3.2 The Committee recommends that the National Maritime Domain Awareness (NMDA) project, which envisages development of common operational picture of all maritime activities in the seas around India based upon various sources, should be finalized at the earliest. The Committee hopes once the NMDA is established it will provide one stop solution for providing satellite imagery for Surveillance purposes. This will be useful for all coastal States and not just Gujarat. (Para 2.1.12 *ibid*)

Action Taken

3.2.1 With an aim to improve NMDA in the aftermath of the Mumbai terrorists' attacks, the Indian Navy articulated an Approach Paper for a comprehensive national approach to

development of NMDA and the paper was prepared in January, 2010 and was well received by all maritime stake-holders. The same was later translated into DPR which was prepared in August 2010.

3.2.2 The DPR was accorded in-principle approval by the National Committee on Strengthening Maritime and Coastal Security Areas against Threats from Sea (NCSMCS) in November, 2010, which directed the Indian Navy to prepare a CCS note and forward the same to the MoD for CCS approval. The CCS note was accordingly prepared and forwarded by MoD in September, 2011 for vetting by concerned Ministries. With the change in Central Government in June, 2014, fresh concurrence of all Ministries was requested by MoD in July, 2014. Presently, a final Cabinet Note has been submitted before the Cabinet for its consideration and approval.

3.2.3 It has been proposed to integrate the national security agencies into the National Command Communication and Intelligence Network (NC3IN) of the National Maritime Domain Awareness (NMDA) programme being co-ordinated by MoD/Indian Navy.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.2.4 The Committee feels unhappy to note that the work on improving National Maritime Domain Awareness (NMDA), which started in January, 2010, is still at the consideration stage. In view of the Committee, a substantial and precious time has elapsed. The Government now needs to give priority to this pending crucial task and complete all the procedural clearances at the earliest.

Recommendation

Seaworthiness of Boats

3.3 The Committee however desires that the concern of the State Government may be examined again. (Para 2.2.7)

Action Taken

3.3.1 The specifications of boats provided under the Phase-I of the Scheme have been finalized in consultation with the Coastal States/UTs, Indian Navy and Coast Guard.

3.3.2 It is reiterated that that the specifications for the boats to be supplied under the Coastal Security Scheme (Phase-II) have been finalized by the Ministry with due consultations with the coastal States/UTs. These boats have endurance range of 200 nautical miles and able to withstand conditions of sea-state 4.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.3.3 Several States/UTs have raised concerns regarding endurance and seaworthiness of boats. The Committee notes that specifications of boats were finalized in consultation with States/UTs, however, boats remain short of required performance. The Committee,

therefore, wants the Ministry to obtain actual performance figures of endurance of boats (in both number of hours and nautical miles), their fuel efficiency, fuel tank capacity and maximum achievable speed for both five and twelve ton boats from all States and UTs and take remedial measures in the light of information obtained, if required. This should be done without any delay.

Recommendation

Repairing Centre at Paradip

3.4 The Committee desires that the Ministry may discuss the matter with the State Government to resolve the issue. (Para 2.6.15)

Action Taken

3.4.1 A Regional Repairing Centre is functioning at Paradip, which is attending to immediate faults of Interceptor Boats of CPSs and in case of necessity the GRSE staff are attending necessary repair of the boat. The Regional Repairing Centre of Paradeep is not well equipped and sufficiently manned. Request has been made to GRSE, Kolkata to provide all sorts of facilities/manpower to the Centre.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.4.2 **The Committee takes a serious note of the fact that the regional Repairing Centre at Paradip is not well equipped and staffed. The Committee expresses its reservations on the issue of extension of AMC contracts to the services deficient companies. The Committee recommends that if the situation does not improve, the Government may explore other options like imposing penalties and seeking services of private players.**

Recommendation

3.5 The Committee feels that the State Government by now must have got the information. However, Ministry of Home Affairs may discuss the matter with Coast Guard and the State Government. (Para 2.6.18)

Action Taken

3.5.1 M/o. Defence has informed that the ICG is yet to receive a formal request from the State Government of Odisha for deputing a Commandant level officer for setting up the State's Coastal Security Scheme. The request will be considered once it is received.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.5.2 **The Committee is displeased at the lack of communication between Odisha State Government and the Indian Coast Guard. The committee strongly recommends that the**

Ministry of Home Affairs must coordinate with the State Government and ICG and ensure that all bottlenecks are removed from speedy implementation of the scheme.

Recommendation

3.6 Other issues flagged by the State Government relate to manpower and related matters. The issues relating to manpower recruitment training etc. are dealt in the next chapter. However, the Committee recommends that the specific issues raised by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh may be appropriately addressed. Some issues also concern other states as well and a careful examination of the issues is necessary. (Para 2.7.5)

Action Taken

3.6.1 Under the scheme, manpower for the marine police personnel including technical crew for the boats is provided by the States and UTs.

3.6.2 Presently they are drawn from the regular civil police and are deployed for a period of 3-5 years after that, they are posted back to their parent cadre thereby causing shortage of technical manpower. In Tamil Nadu, a Coastal Security Group is in operation in the State since 1994, with a task-force of 500 dedicated personnel working on regular basis. Other supervisory staff are re-employed on deputation from other sources for a fixed term of 4 years.

3.6.3 The Second Steering Committee during its meeting held on 07.03.2014, examined the Tamil Nadu Model and it was suggested that all Coastal States/UTs should have a permanent and dedicated Marine Battalion of 1000-2000 personnel on the lines of 'Creek Crocodile' being raised by BSF. It was also suggested that the States/UTs may consider relaxing recruitment rules to employ Ex-Navy/Coast Guard personnel and fishermen.

3.6.4 The Coastal States/UTs have suggested that the proposed Marine India Reserve Battalion for all the Coastal States/UTs should totally be funded by the Central Government, which would go a long way in resolving the issue of Marine Police force in the country. It was decided that coastal States/UTs will submit their comments to MHA on the proposal along with their requirement of manpower for the proposed Marine IRBs

3.6.5 Only few States/UTs, have responded, details of which are as under:

State/UT	Requirement of Battalions under IRB
Odisha	01
Maharashtra	MRBs will not be created in Maharashtra as Marine Training Academy will be sanctioned at Palghar.
Puducherry	02
Karnataka	02
Tamil Nadu	03
Kerala	01

State/UT	Requirement of Battalions under IRB
Goa	01
Daman & Diu	02
Lakshadweep	01
The remaining States/UTs have been requested to send their requirement. MHA is seized of the matter.	

Further Recommendation

3.6.6 The Committee notes the progress relating to raising of Marine India Reserve Battalion (MIRB) and desires that Ministry of Home Affairs must impress upon all the State to submit their requirement of manpower along with their comments on the proposed MIRB at the earliest. After the comments of all the States are received, the Ministry may take early decision.

Recommendation

Daman & Diu

Problem faced in maintaining Coastal Security

3.7 The effort on the part of the UT Administration to recruit local fishermen for the marine police is laudable and will contribute for the improved patrolling and surveillance along the coast of Daman and Diu. The Committee desires that the local people so recruited for Marine Police may be given sufficient training. (Para 2.9.5 *ibid*)

Action Taken

3.7.1 Under the scheme, manpower for the marine police personnel including technical crew for the boats is provided by the States and UTs.

3.7.2 Presently they are drawn from the regular civil police and are deployed for a period of 3-5 years after that, they are posted back to their parent cadre thereby causing shortage of technical manpower. In Tamil Nadu, a Coastal Security Group is in operation in the State since 1994, with a task-force of 500 dedicated personnel working on regular basis. Other supervisory staff are re-employed on deputation from other sources for a fixed term of 4 years.

3.7.3 The Second Steering Committee during its meeting held on 07.03.2014, examined the Tamil Nadu Model and it was suggested that all Coastal States/UTs should have a permanent and dedicated Marine Battalion of 1000-2000 personnel on the lines of Creek Crocodile being raised by BSF.

3.7.4 It was also suggested that the States/UTs may consider relaxing recruitment rules to employ Ex-Navy/Coast Guard personnel and fishermen.

3.7.5 The Coastal States/UTs have suggested that the proposed Marine India Reserve Battalion for all the Coastal States/UTs should totally be funded by the Central Government, which would go a long way in resolving the issue of Marine Police force in the country. It was decided that coastal States/UTs will submit their comments to MHA on the proposal along with

their requirement of manpower for the proposed Marine 3IRBs. Accordingly, most of the States/UTs have since submitted their proposal. MHA is seized of this issue.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.7.6 The Committee notes the progress relating to raising of Marine India Reserve Battalion (MIRB) and

Recommendation

3.8 The Committee desires that the issue of Diu fishermen being captured by Pakistan authorities may be addressed appropriately. (Para 2.9.7)

Action Taken

3.8.1 According to Ministry of External Affairs, the matter relating to release and repatriation of Indian fishermen lodged in Pakistani jails has been raised with Pakistan at different meetings held at the levels of Foreign Secretaries, Foreign Ministers, Home/Interior Secretaries, Home/Interior Ministers details of which are as under:-

- (i) At the Foreign Secretary Level Talks on 25.02.2010 in New Delhi & on 24.06.2010 in Islamabad
- (ii) During Home Minister's visit to Islamabad on 25-26 June, 2010;
- (iii) During the Foreign Minister level talks in Islamabad on 15.07.2010;
- (iv) Foreign Secretary level talks in February, 2011 in Thimpu;
- (v) Home / Interior Secretary level talks on 28-29 March, 2011 in New Delhi;
- (vi) Foreign Secretary level talks in Islamabad on 23-24 June, 2011;
- (vii) Foreign Minister level talks in New Delhi on 27.07.2011;
- (viii) Home/Interior Minister level talks in Islamabad on 24-25 May, 2012;
- (ix) Foreign Secretary level talks in New Delhi on 4-5 July, 2012;
- (x) External Affairs Minister level meet in Islamabad on 08.09.2012.

3.8.2 An India-Pakistan Judicial Committee on Prisoners consisting of four retired judges from each side has been set up to recommend steps for humane treatment and expeditious release of prisoners of respective countries in each other's jails, which met on seven times since 2008.

3.8.3 The matter is being monitored by the High Commission of India, Islamabad on a continuous basis and requests for consular access for the Indian fishermen in Pakistani jails, upon receipt of which from the Government of Pakistan, the verification papers are sent to MHA through MEA for nationality status verification of these fishermen. The High Commission also takes up the matter with Government of Pakistan for release of Indian fishermen who have completed their sentences.

3.8.4 The India-Pakistan Judicial Committee consisting of retired judges from both countries visits jails in both countries to ensure humane treatment and expeditious release of prisoners, including fishermen, who have completed their prison term. As a result of consistent efforts of the Government 337 fishermen were released during 2013 and 185 fishermen were released in 2014 till 10 December 2014.

3.8.5 A delegation comprising officials and fishing boat owners from Gujarat visited Pakistan from 18-19 July, 2014 to discuss the issue of release of 57 boats in Pakistani custody. The modalities are being worked out.

3.8.6 Ministry of Agriculture is the nodal agency for processing payment of compensation of fishermen lodged in Pakistani jails. The Soft Loan Package for replacement of fishing vessels held in captivity in Pakistan is implemented by the Marine Exports Development Authority (MPEDA).

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.8.7 The Committee notes the efforts being made by Ministry of External Affairs for release and repatriation of Indian fishermen. However, it desires that fishermen community in sensitive border areas must be made aware of the existing maritime border situation and must be discouraged to venture far off in the sea to avoid capture by Pakistan authorities. Further, the Committee recommends that in India's maritime region all efforts must be made by security agencies to provide the fishermen adequate security so that their livelihood activities may not be affected. The Committee further hopes that the implementation of proposal for electronic geo-fencing would be helpful in tackling the problem of arrests of fishermen by foreign authorities.

Recommendation

Puducherry

Problems being faced in maintaining Coastal Security

3.9 The Committee is disappointed to note that out of 23 technical posts approved in CSS phase 1, only 3 have been filled and the others could not be filled for want of recruitment rules. Further, 76 technical posts have also been approved under phase II of the scheme. In view of the Committee, this is a very typical case of sorry state of affairs. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommends that the Recruitment Rules may be framed at the earliest so that the sanctioned technical and also non-technical posts may be filled at the earliest to deal with shortage of technical man power. The Committee also agrees with the UT Government that if the incentive structure provided to the employees is not attractive enough, it would be difficult to recruit and retain capable people needed for the purpose. The Committee is therefore not satisfied with the routine reply of the Ministry and desires that it be more proactive in recruiting right people so that the Coastal Security scheme does not remain merely on paper. (Para 2.11.4)

Action Taken

3.9.1 Under the scheme, manpower for the marine police personnel including technical crew for the boats is provided by the States and UTs. Presently they are drawn from the regular civil police and are deployed for a period of 3-5 years after that, they are posted back to their parent cadre thereby causing shortage of technical manpower. In Tamil Nadu, a Coastal Security Group is in operation in the State since 1994, with a task-force of 500 dedicated personnel working on regular basis. Other supervisory staff are re-employed on deputation from other sources for a fixed term of 4 years.

3.9.2 The Second Steering Committee during its meeting held on 07.03.2014, examined the Tamil Nadu Model and it was suggested that all Coastal States/UTs should have a permanent and dedicated Marine Battalion of 1000-2000 personnel on the lines of 'Creek Crocodile' being raised by BSF. It was also suggested that the States/UTs may consider relaxing recruitment rules to employ Ex-Navy/Coast Guard personnel and fishermen.

3.9.3 The Coastal States/UTs have suggested that the proposed Marine India Reserve Battalion for all the Coastal States/UTs should totally be funded by the Central Government, which would go a long way in resolving the issue of Marine Police force in the country. It was decided that coastal States/UTs will submit their comments to MHA on the proposal along with their requirement of manpower for the proposed Marine IRBs.

3.9.4 Ministry of Home Affairs has sanctioned 364 posts for Coastal Police Stations in Puducherry, which include 76 technical posts.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.9.5 The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Home Affairs must actively monitor the status of recruitment of personnel in different States/UTs on a continuous basis and should help them, whenever necessary, overcome any road blocks. The Ministry should also take an early decision on the proposed Marine India Reserve Battalions (MIRB). The Committee feels that such a responsible and collaborative approach is essential for ensuring foolproof Coastal Security of India.

Recommendation

Problem being faced in maintaining Coastal Security

3.10 All the above suggestions apply to all the coastal States/UTs. The Ministry needs to adopt a common approach on the above suggestions. The Committee recommends that the Ministry may look into the above suggestions of the UT Government to find out their feasibility for implementation. (Para 2.11.8)

Action Taken

3.10.1 Under the scheme, manpower for the marine police personnel including technical crew for the boats is provided by the States and UTs.

3.10.2 The suppliers/AMC contractors of the Fast Interceptor Boats supplied to the States/UTs have informed that preventive checks / maintenance are being carried out on boats on regular basis.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.10.3 The Committee is not convinced with the reply and feels that the complaints of Coastal State Governments/UTs cannot be ignored. The Committee, therefore, recommends that immediate action should be taken on the complaints received from the States and the Ministry of Home Affairs must prevail upon the suppliers/AMC contractors to improve their services.

Recommendation

OTHER ISSUES

Shortage of Technical Manpower and lack of training facilities

3.11 The Committee strongly recommends that the proposed Marine Police Training Institutes-one each on the Eastern and Western Coast may be set up as soon as possible as the specialized training required by the Marine police personnel is of utmost importance. The Committee is also of the view that the Central and concerned State Governments should pro-actively coordinate with each other so that the project does not get trapped in bureaucratic hurdles and the institutes are set up in a definite time-frame. (Para 3.2)

Action Taken

3.11.1 Under the Coastal Security Scheme, the manpower is to be provided by the coastal States/UTs. MHA provides the necessary training through the Coast Guard. The coastal States/UTs are exhorted to recruit local fishermen by way of relaxation of the recruitment rules, in addition to employ the ex-Navy and ex-Coast Guard personnel.

3.11.2 MHA has already finalized setting up of National Marine Police Training Institute to be located in Gujarat for imparting training to the States Marine Police personnel. Necessary steps are being taken for establishing the Institute.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.11.3 The Committee reiterates that one Marine police training institute on eastern Coast of the country also may be set-up in view of the vast coastal line of the country.

Recommendation

3.12. The Committee has been informed by the Government of Karnataka that the State Government plans to recruit separate staff for Coastal Security Policing and wish to train them adequately in sea- faring. The step has been welcomed by the Home Ministry. The Committee also appreciates the step taken by the Government of Karnataka and urges other State Governments/UTs to also raise dedicated cadres for marine policing as has been planned by the Government of Karnataka. (Para 3.5)

Action Taken

3.12.1 The coastal States/UTs have been advised to adopt the Kamataka model, as per which, State had earlier engaged Ex-Navy/Coast Guard Personnel as Coastal Marine Police. But, the Kamataka has informed that over a period of time, this system was found to be ineffective, because the Ex-Navy/Coast Guard Personnel have the tendency to leave the organization due to better pay and perks offered elsewhere. Despite this, various States/UTs have taken necessary steps for adopting this model.

3.12.2 Nevertheless above, as per the decision of the Second Steering Committee during its meeting held on 07.03.2014, it was suggested that all Coastal States/UTs should have a permanent and dedicated Marine Battalion of 1000-2000 personnel on the lines of 'Creek Crocodile' being raised by BSF. It was also suggested that the States/UTs may consider relaxing recruitment rules to employ Ex-Navy/Coast Guard personnel and fishermen.

3.12.3 The Coastal States/UTs have suggested that the proposed Marine India Reserve Battalion for all the Coastal States/UTs should totally be funded by the Central Government, which would go a long way in resolving the issue of Marine Police force in the country. It was decided that coastal States/UTs will submit their comments to MHA on the proposal along with their requirement of manpower for the proposed Marine IRBs. While most of the States/UTs have sent their proposal, few States/UTs have yet to submit the same. MHA is seized of this issue.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.12.4 The Committee notes the progress relating to raising of Marine India Reserve Battalion (MIRB) and desires that Ministry of Home Affairs must impress upon all the States to submit their requirement of manpower along with their comments on the proposed MIRB at the earliest. After the comments of all the States are received, the Ministry may take a decision immediately thereafter.

Recommendation

Maintenance of boats and other equipments

3.13 The Committee is totally dissatisfied by the Ministry's response and its approach towards the issue of maintenance. It needs to be more serious on the issue and address the issue of maintenance appropriately. It also notes the complaints of similar nature made by other Coastal States/UTs. The Committee feels that the issue should be looked afresh in consultation with the State Governments so that such issues could be resolved satisfactorily. It recommends that the Ministry should hold a meeting with all the service providers and the concerned Governments for resolving all outstanding issues related to maintenance, so that the boats and other equipments do not lie idle for want of rectification even when there are slight technical malfunctions. The Committee also recommends that technical know how for small technical defects may be given to local operators so that they do not have to depend upon others even for small problems. The Committee also suggests that decentralization of the maintenance of boats may be considered.

(Para 3.10)

Action Taken

3.13.1 For the maintenance of the Interceptor Boats supplied to the coastal States/UTs under the Phase-I of the Coastal Security Scheme, an Annual Maintenance Contract (AMC) has been signed by MHA, on behalf of coastal States/UTs, with Govt. of India Undertaking shipbuilders, GSL and GRSE on 20.1.2010 initially for a period of four years, which has been granted extension beyond 20.01.2014 upto 31.03.2016.

3.13.2 The Suppliers/ AMC Contractors of the Interceptor Boats provided under the Phase- I of the Coastal Security Scheme have informed that preventive checks / maintenance are being carried out on regular basis. Further, they are imparting necessary on the spot training in each coastal State/UT.

3.13.3 In the various review meetings taken by the MHA, the issues connected with boats are discussed comprehensively both with the coastal States/UTs and the boat suppliers.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.13.4 The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Home Affairs should exhort the suppliers/ AMC Contractors to establish regional repair workshops and spare parts shops at major ports in every States/UTs. As a stop gap arrangement they may open authorized service centers. They must also be urged to conduct regular training workshops to impart required technical know-how. The Committee also recommends that the above stated measures may be made a necessary condition for granting any future AMC.

Recommendation***Port Security***

3.14 The Committee is surprised to note that even after the Mumbai attack, 187 minor ports of the country still lack standardized security cover. The Committee strongly recommends that an early decision may be taken on the report submitted by the working group of the Ministry of Shipping so that security norms for Minor Ports may be established. There should be regular security audit of the minor ports also alongwith major ports. (Para 3.12)

Action Taken

3.14.1 Ministry of Shipping has issued necessary directions for implementation of provisions of ISPS. The purpose of ISPS Code is essentially to detect and deter through effective access control.

3.14.2 A Committee under the Chairmanship of A. Ramachandran, the then Chairman of Cochin Port Trust was formed to devise minimum security standards for ports *vide* M/o. Shipping Order No.PT11024/1/2003-PT dated 31.07.2009. The Committee submitted its report to Ministry of Shipping on August 8, 2011. There is need of early implementation of the security recommendations of report at all the ports. Once some basic infrastructure like

boundary wall/fencing, access control mechanism, anti-sabotage checking mechanism, force to guard and seafront security are put in place by the owners/operators, security audits can be conducted.

3.14.3 MHA has got the security audit done through IB and audit has revealed that out of 203 non-major/minor ports, 45 are non-operational while 75 have no security force even for name sake to guard them. Further, many of these non-operational ports are used as fish landing points/jetties. IB has also stated that this list includes 49 non-major ports - 21 in Gujarat, 09 in Maharashtra, 05 in Andhra Pradesh, 02 in Karnataka, 06 in Tamil Nadu, 02 in Puducherry and 01 each in Goa, A&N Islands, Kerala and Odisha.

3.14.4 As per the Security Audit report, there are several short-comings in the existing security arrangements like - X-ray machine is not available, non-maintenance of record of incoming / outgoing communications, to name a few. After evaluating the existing security arrangements, threat perceptions etc, the IB has made various recommendations like:-

Adequate number of CCTVs should be installed to carry out surveillance.

Mock-drill should be conducted periodically.

Speed breakers may be constructed inside and outside at all the gates.

The 8 digits alphanumerical character passwords may be used for operating the PCs and should be changed periodically.

Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad (BDDS) should be available at the Port.

The Port should be declared as a 'Prohibited Area' for fishing.

X-ray scanner should be made available at the gate and the port's administrative office to scan the personal belongings of the staff/visitors.

Proper record of the foreigners with details of their particulars *i.e.* name, passport details, visa details, period of stay and purpose etc., may be maintained.

The watch-towers of adequate height may be constructed in the port jetty area to monitor the sea front from all sides of Port Jetty.

Patrol tracks both inside and outside perimeter should be made to carry out effective patrol.

Random checking of Tiffin boxes of employees must be carried out during entry/exit.

Contingency plan for oil spillage may be vetted by Indian Coast Guard.

3.14.5 Further, the IB has already circulated the audit reports to the respective States/concerned authorities for information and necessary action.

3.14.6 Soon after receipt of the above report, MHA has addressed to the Chief Secretaries of the concerned States to take appropriate action immediately so as to comply with the recommendations of the audit report of the IB.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.14.7 The Committee is shocked to note that according to the MHA out of 203 non-major/minor ports, 45 are non-operational while 75 have no security force even for name sake to guard them. Further, many of these non-operational ports are used as fish landing points/jetties and this list includes 49 non-major ports. The Committee takes a very serious note on the grave deficiencies highlighted in the security audit report of IB and is of the view that this report of IB should act as an alarm bell for the Government, particularly with reference to such ports in Gujarat and Maharashtra. The Committee feels strongly that the recommendations given in the above said report should be implemented at the earliest by all States/UTs. The Ministry of Home Affairs should support States/UTs by providing any required technical and financial assistance as well as monitoring regularly the implementation of the recommendations given in the Security Audit Report.

Recommendation

Constitution of Maritime Boards

3.15 The Committee strongly urges the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Goa and UT of A&N Islands to constitute State Maritime Boards at the earliest. It also urges the Ministry of Home Affairs to expedite examination of Maritime Board Bills/Ordinance of the Governments of Karnataka, Kerala and Odisha so that the Boards can be established at the earliest. (Para 3.16)

Action Taken

3.15.1 Kerala MHA has conveyed the instructions of the President for promulgation of the Ordinance on 22.10.2014 in respect of Kerala.

3.15.2 In respect of Odisha and Karnataka, their proposal were examined in the Ministry and sent the same to the respective States for clarifications.

3.15.3 In respect of Goa, Andhra Pradesh and Andaman & Nicobar Islands, the process of constitution of Maritime Board is underway.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.15.4 The Committee is not satisfied with the progress in this regard and recommends that the institutional arrangements of setting up of state maritime boards should be put in place at the earliest. In this regard State Governments may be persuaded to take immediate appropriate action and there should be no further delay in this regard.

Recommendation

Total requirement of manpower for coastal security

3.16 The Committee recommends that all the sanctioned posts for coastal security may be filled up in time so that the vigilance on the coast is not compromised for want of adequate

number of personnel. It exhorts the ministry to avoid procedural pitfalls so that the posts can be filled in stipulated time period. The Committee desires that the scheme should not suffer for want of man power. (Para 3.28)

Recruitment process for 1000 personnel under Sagar Prahari Bal

3.16.1 The Committee desires that the rest of the personnel may be recruited as and when the remaining Fast Interceptor Crafts (FICs) are inducted. The Committee hopes that a time line for the same would be fixed by the Ministry for strict adherence. (Para 3.30)

Action Taken

3.16.2 M/o. Defence has informed that personnel for all the 1000 posts of Sagar Prahari Bal have been inducted. Presently 20 Fast Interceptor Crafts (FICs) have been inducted and 20 officers and 504 sailors have been deployed. Balance 60 FICs are expected to be inducted by the end of 2017 with four FICs being inducted every quarter. The balance personnel will be deployed in accordance with the FIC induction plan.

3.16.3 Under the Coastal Security Scheme, the manpower is to be provided by the coastal States/UTs. MHA provides the necessary training through the Coast Guard. While most of the States/UTs have made recruitments, the coastal States/UTs are exhorted to recruit local fishermen by way of relaxation of the recruitment rules, in addition to employ the ex-Navy and ex-Coast Guard personnel.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.16.4 The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Home Affairs must actively monitor the status of recruitment of personnel in different States/UTs on a continual basis and should help them, whenever necessary, to overcome any road blocks. The Ministry should also take an early decision on the proposed raising of Marine India Reserve Battalions (MIRB).

Recommendation

Issues related to Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries

Issuance of biometric ID cards to fishermen

3.17 The Committee urges the Government to complete issuing of biometric identity cards of the remaining fishermen. It also recommends that a data bank of such cards should be maintained for ready reference. Such a measure would help in identifying intruders and foreign nationals entering the country. (Para 3.37)

Action Taken

3.17.1 D/o. Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries (DAHDF) Project is charged with issuance of biometric identity card to marine fishers. Out of 18,12,011 fishermen identified for issuance of biometric ID card, data collection and digitization in respect of almost all the fishermen has been completed. Till the end of May, 2014, the consortium of CPSUs has

produced a total of 11,30,843 ID cards and dispatched 11,28,675 cards to the States/UTs for distribution to the fishermen.

3.17.2 The Committee, in its meeting held on 5th February 2015, was updated by the MHA regarding the latest status of issuance of fishermen ID cards as follows:-

"The RGI has captured biometric details of 67,50,719 persons of age 18 years and above living in the coastal areas, and distributed 65,72,523 NPR ID cards. D/o Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries has produced 11,71,616 Fishermen ID Cards and delivered 11,52,146 cards for the fishermen."

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

3.17.3 The Committee is constrained to express its displeasure over the slow progress of production and distribution of bio-metric ID Cards of fishermen as only about two third target has been achieved so far. The Committee desires that Government should fix a strict time-line to complete production and distribution of bio-metric I-Cards to fishermen. The Ministry may pursue this issue regularly with the consortium of Central Public Sector Units (CPSUs) and States/UTs for completion of the process within a definite time frame.

CHAPTER-IV

RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN RECEIVED BY THE COMMITTEE

Recommendation

Role of Mercantile Marine Department

4.1 The Committee is of the opinion that the issues raised by the State Government regarding non-availability of inputs on national security matters and regulation of benami investment are worth noting and deserve attention. The Committee feels that if the Ministry of Shipping is not the relevant agency then the concerned agency be it Ministry of Home Affairs or any other agency should provide necessary inputs to the State Government. Ministry of Home Affairs may look into this matter. (Para 2.1.5)

Action Taken

4.1.1 Ministry of Shipping has informed that the mandate of Mercantile Marine Department (MMD) is to check the technical aspects and sea-worthiness of the vessels registered under Merchant Shipping Act and MMD will not be in a position to bring out investment details.

4.1.2 The matters relating to the issues concerning benami investment in ship building, under-valuation of investment pertains to Ministry of Finance/D/o Revenue. The matter has been taken up with them for further appropriate action.

Recommendation

Involvement of Directorate General of Light Houses and Light Ships (DGLL)

4.2 The Committee, notwithstanding the reply of the Ministry, desires that the concern of the State Government may appropriately be addressed. Secretary, Shipping may hold a meeting in the matter. (Para 2.1.7)

Action Taken

4.2.1 The NCSMCS (National Committee for Strengthening Maritime Coastal Security against Threats from Sea) in its 9th meeting held on 3rd July, 2014 had directed that ICG will continue with both the pilot projects *i.e.* RFID and MSS for, tracking system (transponders) for boats less than 20 m, as per the earlier decision. M/o Defence may, in addition, study the Singapore model (triangulation method using cell phones) for suitability. Similarly, NCSMCS also directed that M/o Shipping will complete the pilot study on proprietary transponders within one-and-half months.

4.2.2 Status: An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) headed by IG (Ops), Coast Guard and comprising representatives from following Deptts. viz. Indian Navy, M/o. Shipping/DGLL, D/o Space DRDO, NSCS, G/o Gujarat, G/o Maharashtra was constituted.

4.2.3 As per the Committees report, the AIS(P) transponders are best suited for tracking sub 20 mtrs. boats subject to being suitably modified, while the other two technologies i.e. RFID and MSS having been ruled out due to (a) in absence of any existing working model and lack of firm proposal for long range tracking transponders using RFID and (b) because of non-availability of 'S' band frequency spectrum for MSS technology.

4.2.4 PMO has forwarded a pilot project undertaken on electronic geo-fencing by DGLL for tracking of small fishing vessels fitted with customized AIS transponders upto a distance of 50 kms from coastline. DGLL has got an evaluation study conducted on this project. PMO informed that the study report is to be shared with M/o Home Affairs and M/o Home Affairs, in consultation with DAHDF would bring a Note for the Cabinet by 30.09.2014 based on the report submitted by DGLL, to roll out the project. MHA has, accordingly, initiated drafting the Cabinet Note in consultation with D/o AHD&F.

4.2.5 In the meeting of the Committee held on 5th February, 2015 on the subject Border Management, IG, Coast Guard apprised the Committee regarding the plans to install Automatic Information System (AIS) Transponders on sub-20th metres boats and the proposed Geo-Fencing Project as follows:-

"But, the problem is of boats which are less than 20 metres. That has been the biggest problem. There are 2.4 lakhs boats. They are small targets. There is no transponder on them to pick them up through our radars or the sensors which are put along the coasts and as a result, they have become the biggest threat area for us. So, recently we have had a Committee which has finalized a transponder which will be an AIS transponder, i.e., Automatic Information System, which will be placed on all these boats for which the Secretary (BM) has said that they are making a CCS note. Through that, we will be able to track all the movements of these boats, once it is implemented. It may take two-three years to fructify finally. But once that is there, it is going to be connected with the national AIS chain and we will get the feedback in all our Coast Guard operations' room and Naval operations' room and DGLL will also have a feedback of all these boats in our territorial waters and in adjacent seas. There are provisions made of geo fencing."

4.2.6 The Committee was further apprised with the information on Registration and Tracking of Vessels/Boats as under:-

"All the sailing vessels above 20 metres length are mandatorily required to be fitted with Automatic Identification System (AIS) equipment. If the same is not fitted, then the Registrations of such vessels on an annual basis will not be done. While sailing vessels below 20 metres (mainly fishing vessels) are statutorily not required to install AIS which poses threat to the security of the coastal area. A total of 1,91,559 fishing vessels have been registered up to 31.12.2014."

Security of off-shore oil installations

4.3 It appears that the Ministry of Home Affairs is not aware of the issue. The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Home Affairs may look into the security concerns expressed by the State Government. The Committee recommends that the Ministries of Home, Shipping, Steel and Petroleum and Natural Gas should hold a meeting with the State Government of Gujarat to understand the missing link and find suitable ways to address its concerns. (Para 2.1.10)

Action Taken

4.3.1 The issue of providing security to the Single Point Moorings (SPMs) has been engaging the attention of MHA for quite some time now. In order to identify the appropriate agency for security cover to the SPMs, an Inter-Ministerial Committee under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary (Border Management), MHA and members drawn from stake-holder Ministries/ Departments/Agencies has been constituted on 17.04.2014 to go into the entire gamut of the issues concerning the SPMs and to suggest recommendations. The Committee has met thrice, on 05.06.2014, 02.07.2014 and 04.08.2014.

4.3.2 Subsequent to discussions during the meetings, D/o Legal Affairs has been requested to examine the issue as to whether in terms of Section 14 of the Coast Guard Act, 1978, the duty to protect the SPMs falls within the purview of Indian Coast Guard or not.

4.3.3 D/o Legal Affairs has informed that the issue raised by the MoD/ICG that as per the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958, the security of SPMs rests with the port authorities and, hence, the Ministry of Shipping may be consulted and their views may also be made available for examination. Accordingly the issue has been taken with the M/o Shipping for their comments on 7th November, 2014, followed by a reminder on 18th November, 2014.

4.3.4 After receipt of M/o Shipping's comments, the file will be referred to D/o Legal Affairs again for their considered advice on this issue so that necessary action for addressing the issue of protecting the SPMs will be taken.

Recommendation***Deliberate Oil spills by insurgents***

4.4 The Committee recommends that the scheme may be prepared at the earliest. It also feels that the Ministry should address the fears expressed by the State Government of deliberate oil spills by insurgents, for creating fire hazards for destruction of ships and port properties, by procuring equipment and dispersants to combat oil spill. This issue concerns all the coastal States. (Para 2.1.16)

Action Taken

4.4.1 The Ministry of Shipping is preparing the Scheme for assisting major and non-major ports from the fund collected from oil pollution cess @ 50 paisa per MT, to procure equipment and dispersant to combat oil spill.

FURTHER RECOMMENDATION

4.4.2 **The Committee desires that formulation of scheme of combating oil spills may be done at the earliest.**

Recommendation

Requirement of equipments for meeting ISPS Audit

4.5 The Committee recommends that Radio-active material scanners should be installed at all entry/exit points of all major ports in all the coastal States. (Para 2.1.18)

Action Taken

4.5.1 Ministry of Shipping was requested to take suitable action for installing scanner for radioactive material at all entry/exit points in all the Coastal States/UTs.

4.5.2 DG Shipping has informed that the issue is being handled separately wherein they have opined that RDEs should not be part of ISPS.

Recommendation

Coastal Security-multi-agency responsibility and surveillance

4.6 The Committee recommends that pilot projects for RFID, MSS and AIS(P) may be undertaken so as to ascertain their feasibility for implementation and the same should be completed at the earliest so that a final view may be taken in this regard. The Committee is of the opinion that such technological interventions are extremely important to improve the logistics of coastal security apparatus and, therefore, should be put into service as soon as the feasibility studies prove positive. The issue was also raised during the Study Visit of the Committee to the Coastal Police Stations in Andhra Pradesh. The Committee is of the opinion that a separate group is needed by including people who work on this subject in the aviation sector in a collaborative effort with the Coast Guard and agencies dealing with satellites and transponders for early implementation. (Para 2.2.5)

Action Taken

4.6.1 The NCSMCS (National Committee for Strengthening Maritime Coastal Security against Threats from Sea) in its 9th meeting held on 3rd July, 2014 had directed that ICG will continue with both the pilot projects *i.e.* RFID and MSS for tracking system (transponders) for boats less than 20 m, as per the earlier decision. M/o Defence may, in addition, study the Singapore model (triangulation method using cell phones) for suitability. Similarly, NCSMCS also directed that M/o Shipping will complete the pilot study on proprietary transponders within one-and-half months.

4.6.2 Status: An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) headed by IG (Ops), Coast Guard and comprising representatives from following Deptts. *viz.* Indian Navy, M/o Shipping/DGLL, D/o Space DRDO, NSCS, G/o Gujarat, G/o Maharashtra was constituted.

4.6.3 As per the Committees report, the AIS(P) transponders are best suited for tracking sub 20 mtrs. boats subject to being suitably modified, while the other two technologies *i.e.* RFID and MSS having been ruled out due to (a) in absence of any existing working model and lack of firm proposal for long range tracking transponders using RFID and (b) because of non-availability of 'S' band frequency spectrum for MSS technology.

4.6.4 PMO has forwarded a pilot project undertaken on electronic geo-fencing by DGLL for tracking of small fishing vessels fitted with customized AIS transponders upto a distance of 50 kms from coastline. DGLL has got an evaluation study conducted on this project. PMO informed that the study report is, to be shared with M/o Home Affairs and that the M/o Home Affairs, in consultation with DAHDF would bring a Note for the Cabinet based on the report submitted by DGLL, to roll out the project.

4.6.5 MHA has, accordingly, initiated drafting the Cabinet Note in consultation with D/o AHD&F.

Recommendation

4.7 The Committee feels that it is a ticklish issue. The Ministry of Home Affairs may discuss with State Government and fishermen and solve the problem. (Para 2.3.4)

Action Taken

4.7.1 The issue pertains to objection by local fishermen to the use of Jetties of Fisheries and Port Department by the Coastal Security Police. The State Government of Karnataka has been requested to solve the issue on priority basis as per the recommendation of the Committee.

Recommendation

4.8 The Committee notes the assurance of the State Government given to the Ministry and desires that the recruitment may be completed at the earliest. Issuing of ID cards may also be completed at the earliest. (Para 2.3.6)

Action Taken

4.8.1 The State Government of Karnataka has been requested to take appropriate action in the matter. All the 66,203 cards produced have been delivered. Efforts are on to produce balance cards.

Recommendation

Kerala

Provision of Jetties and floating wharfs

4.9 The Committee desires that the suggestion of the State Government for providing wharfs where constructing Jetties is a problem, may be looked into. Even though the decision has been left to the State Government, the Ministry may discuss the issue with the State. (Para 2.4.3)

Action Taken

4.9.1 The State Government of Kerala has been requested to take appropriate action in the matter.

Recommendation

Andhra Pradesh

4.10 The Committee recommends that the pilot-study regarding fitting AIS (transponders) may be completed in a time bound manner so that the findings of the same may be implemented thereon. (Para 2.7.4)

Action Taken

4.10. 19th NCSMCS in its meeting held on 3rd July, 2014 had directed that ICG will continue with both the pilot projects *i.e.* RFID and MSS for tracking system (transponders) for boats less than 20 m, as per the earlier decision. M/o Defence may, in addition, study the Singapore model (triangulation method using cell phones) for suitability. Similarly, NCSMCS also directed that M/o Shipping will complete the pilot study on proprietary transponders within one-and-half months.

4.10.2 Subsequently, an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) headed by IG (Ops), Coast Guard and comprising representatives from following Deptts. *viz.* Indian Navy, M/o. Shipping/DGLL, D/o Space DRDO, NSCS, G/o Gujarat, G/o. Maharashtra was constituted.

4.10.3 As per the Committees report, the AIS(P) transponders are best suited for tracking sub 20 mtrs. boats subject to being suitably modified, while the other two technologies *i.e.* RFID and MSS having been ruled out due to (a) in absence of any existing working model and lack of firm proposal for long range tracking transponders using RFID and (b) because of non-availability of 'S' band frequency spectrum for MSS technology.

4.10.4 PMO has forwarded a pilot project undertaken on electronic geo-fencing by DGLL for tracking of small fishing vessels fitted with customized AIS transponders upto a distance of 50 kms from coastline. DGLL has got an evaluation study conducted on this project. PMO informed that the study report is to be shared with M/o Home Affairs and that the M/o Home Affairs, in consultation with DAHDF would bring a Note for the Cabinet based on the report submitted by DGLL, to roll out the project.

4.10.5 MHA has, accordingly, initiated drafting the Cabinet Note in consultation with D/o AHD&F

Recommendation

Incentives to people joining marine police

4.11 The Committee strongly recommends that an attractive incentive structure may be considered personnel recruited for coastal security. (Para 3.18)

Action Taken

4.11.1 The Coastal States/UTs have been advised to formulate an attractive incentive package on the lines of Indian Coast Guard for State Marine Police personnel.

FURTHER OBSERVATION

4.11.2 *The Committee notes the reply and desires that there should be uniformity in the Incentives among the State marine police personnel. Early action may be taken after receiving the plans from the States.*

Recommendation

4.12 The Committee is not convinced and observes that the temporary arrangement as has been made in Hyderabad can be temporarily made at some coastal town. Land required for permanent Coastal Security Headquarter in Andhra Pradesh may also be allotted soon in Vizag. All such headquarters/offices in other States related to coastal security which are far from the coastal areas may be shifted to appropriate coastal towns (Para 3.22)

Action Taken

4.12.1 The State Government of Andhra Pradesh has been requested to take appropriate action in the matter.

Recommendation***Issues related to Ministry of Shipping******Imposing Cess to combat oil spills***

4.13 The Committee is not clear as to whether the collected cess will also be used to tackle situations when oil gets spilled into the sea either in an accident or as a result of misadventure by anybody. The Committee is of the opinion that a portion of such collected cess should also be kept to tackle 'post-spill' emergencies while the rest can be utilised for proper handling and storage of oil cargo. The Committee is also surprised by the fact that though the oil pollution cess is being collected for nearly twenty-five years since October, 1988, no money was ever utilized for the intended purpose for want of a scheme for implementation. The Committee therefore recommends that the scheme for implementation should be approved at the earliest so that the same can be implemented. (Para 3.35)

Action Taken

4.13.1 Regarding cess to combat oil spills, the Scheme was envisaged by the Ministry of Shipping and is titled "Scheme for providing assistance to ports for combating oil pollution and for mitigating measures" the objective of the scheme is to support Major and Non-Major Ports by way of financial assistance to procure pollution response equipments materials required for combating Tier-1 oil spills in their waters. The role of the Directorate was limited to examining the draft EFC memo to make the scheme more specific and also specify the kinds of equipments that can be allowed under the scheme (civil works excluding).

4.13.2 DG Shipping, has accordingly, provided a generalized list for consideration. However, the equipments for each port is required to be specific to the Port and would depend on the size of vessels handled by the port, its topography, the quantum to oil handled by the Port etc. Each Port Authority was to examine and forward to the Ministry their exact requirements. The opinion of the Committee with regard to retaining portion of the collected cess to tackle 'Post-spill' emergencies may therefore need to be considered by the Ministry of Shipping. It is also noted that the Ministry is considering a scheme for utilization of the funds as per the recommendations.

General Issue

4.14 In the meeting of the Committee on Home Affairs on 5th February, 2015 on the subject Border Management, Secretary (BM) and IG, Coast Guard made the following submissions in their presentation on Coastal Security:-

Capturing of Indian fishermen and their boats by Sri Lanka

"...But, it is more often than not that our boats are found on the other side because of lack of fishing resources in the water adjacent to our coast. It is completely exploited. There is no fish, so they go deliberately to the other side and do fishing there. At times, they have gone very close to the Sri Lankan side and as a result they get apprehended...as of now, we have got 28 boats and 22 crew in Indian jails from Sri Lanka. And, Indian boats which have been apprehended by Sri Lanka, as of now, are 96 boats and 29 fishermen; boats are more."

4.14.1 The representative further submitted as below:-

"We also have a mechanism to have the release of the fishermen as early as possible from Sri Lanka. We have faced no problem until and unless the fishermen are involved in smuggling and narcotics."

4.14.2 The Committee recommends that this issue may be resolved at the earliest so that lives and livelihood of fishermen may not be endangered. The Committee further recommends that the Ministry must take stringent measures to stop illegal activities such as smuggling and narcotics in India's coastal region.

OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS/CONCLUSIONS OF THE COMMITTEE - AT A GLANCE

Manpower Recruitment

The Committee strongly feels that requisitioning of personnel from regular civil police should be in a such way that the personnel returning to parent cadre after deployment for a period of 3-5 years do not cause shortage of technical manpower and the replacement should be available beforehand. The Committee also desires that the Ministry should take an early decision on the proposed Marine India Reserve Battalions (MIRB). An early decision may be taken on the central funding for Battalion. (Para 1.13.5)

Security along West Bengal coast

Infiltration of foreign nationals in A&N Islands

Early decision should be taken to adopt electronic surveillance system particularly in sundarban area. (Para 1.17.7)

Marine Police Station

The Committee feels that the Ministry of Home Affairs must take up the issue of land allocation for construction of Coastal Police Stations (CPSs) with Ministry of Shipping and request them to direct Port Trust to allot land for CPSs on priority basis in a time bound manner. (Para 2.2.5)

Additional Funds for Infrastructure & Logistic Development

The Committee agrees with State Government's view that 'one-size fits all' approach can't be adopted in Coastal Security domain due to varying vulnerability, threat perceptions and necessities of different States/UTs. Therefore, the Committee recommends that Ministry of Home Affairs should actively consider demands for additional funds so as to plug all infrastructural & logistical gaps. Implementation of CSS (Phase-II) may be completed at the earliest and all sanctioned boats must be provided to the state to augment the existing fleet. The National Institute of Coastal Policing, may be set-up, as proposed, at the earliest. (Para 3.1.8)

Integration of Visual Imagery from Aerial Surveillance and Satellite Imagery

The Committee feels unhappy to' note that the work on improving National Maritime Domain Awareness (NMDA), which started in January, 2010, is still at the consideration stage. In view of the Committee, a substantial and precious time has elapsed. The Government now needs to give priority to this pending crucial task and complete all the procedural clearances at the earliest. (Para 3.2.4)

Seaworthiness of Boats

Several States/UTs have raised concerns regarding endurance and seaworthiness of boats. The Committee notes that specifications of boats were finalized in consultation with States/UTs, however, boats remain short of required performance. The Committee, therefore, wants the Ministry to obtain actual performance figures of endurance of boats (in both number of hours' and nautical miles), their fuel efficiency, fuel tank capacity and maximum achievable speed for both five and twelve ton boats from all States and UTs and take remedial measures in the light of information obtained, if required. This should be done without any delay. (Para 3.3.3)

Repairing Centre at Paradip

The Committee takes a serious note of the fact that the regional Repairing Centre at Paradip is not well equipped and staffed. The Committee expresses its reservations on the issue of extension of AMC contracts to the services deficient companies. The Committee recommends that if the situation does not improve, the government may explore other options like imposing penalties and seeking services of private players. (Para 3.4.2)

Coordination between various Coastal Security Agencies

The Committee is displeased at the lack of communication between Odisha State Government and the Indian Coast Guard. The committee strongly recommends that the Ministry of Home Affairs must coordinate with the State Government and ICG and ensure that all bottlenecks are removed from speedy implementation of the scheme. (Para 3.5.2)

Marine India Reserve Battalion

The Committee notes the progress relating to raising of Marine India Reserve Battalion (MIRB) and desires that Ministry of Home Affairs must impress upon all the state to submit their requirement of manpower along with their comments on the proposed MIRB at the earliest. After the comments of all the states are received, the Ministry may take early decision. (Para 3.6.6)

Daman & Diu

Problem faced in Maintaining Coastal Security

The Committee notes the progress relating to raising of Marine India Reserve Battalion (MIRB) and made a recommendation in para 3.6.6 in this Chapter. (Para 3.7.6)

Security of Fishermen

The Committee notes the efforts being made by Ministry of External Affairs for release and repatriation of Indian fishermen. However, it desires that fishermen community in sensitive border areas must be made aware of the existing maritime border situation and must be discouraged to venture far off in the sea to avoid capture

by Pakistan authorities. Further, the Committee recommends that in India's maritime region all efforts must be made by security agencies to provide the fishermen adequate security so that their livelihood activities may not be affected. The Committee further hopes that the implementation of proposal for electronic geo-fencing would be helpful in tackling the problem of arrests of fishermen by foreign authorities. (Para 3.8.7)

Puducherry

Problems being Faced in Maintaining Coastal Security

The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Home Affairs must actively monitor the status of recruitment of personnel in different States/UTs on a continuous basis and should help them, whenever necessary, overcome any road blocks. The Ministry should also take an early decision on the proposed Marine India Reserve Battalions (MIRB). The Committee feels that such a responsible and collaborative approach is essential for ensuring foolproof Coastal Security of India. (Para 3.9.5)

Problems being Faced in Maintaining Coastal Security

The Committee is not convinced with the reply and feels that the complaints of Coastal State Governments/UTs cannot be ignored. The Committee, therefore, recommends that immediate action should be taken on the complaints received from the States and the Ministry of Home Affairs must prevail upon the suppliers/AMC contractors to improve their services. (Para 3.10.3)

Shortage of Technical Manpower and lack of Training Facilities

The Committee reiterates that one Marine police training institute on eastern Coast of the country also may be set-up in view of the vast coastal line of the country. (Para 3.11.3)

Marine India Reserve Battalion

The Committee notes the progress relating to raising of Marine India Reserve Battalion (MIRB) and desires that Ministry of Home Affairs must impress upon all the state to submit their requirement of manpower along with their comments on the proposed MIRB at the earliest. After the comments of all the states are received, the Ministry may take a decision immediately thereafter. (Para 3.12.4)

Maintenance of Boats and other Equipments

The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Home Affairs should exhort the suppliers/ AMC Contractors to establish regional repair workshops and spare parts shops at major ports in every States/UTs. As a stop gap arrangement they may open authorized service centers. They must also be urged to conduct regular training workshops to impart required technical know-how. The Committee also recommends that the above stated measures may be made a necessary condition for granting any future AMC. (Para 3.13.4)

Port Security

The Committee is shocked to note that according to the MHA out of 203 non-major/minor ports, 45 are non-operational while 75 have no security force even for name sake to guard them. Further, many of these non-operational ports are used as fish landing points/jetties and this list includes 49 non-major ports. The Committee takes a very serious note on the grave deficiencies highlighted in the security audit report of IB and is of the view that this report of IB should act as an alarm bell for the Government, particularly with reference to such ports in Gujarat and Maharashtra. The Committee feels strongly that the recommendations given in the above said report should be implemented at the earliest by all States/UTs. The Ministry of Home Affairs should support States/UTs by providing any required technical and financial assistance as well as monitoring regularly the implementation of the recommendations given in the Security Audit Report. (Para 3.14.7)

Constitution of Maritime Boards

The Committee is not satisfied with the progress in this regard and recommends that the institutional arrangements of setting up of state maritime boards should be put in place at the earliest. In this regard State governments may be persuaded to take immediate appropriate action and there should be no further delay in this regard. (Para 3.15.4)

Recruitment process under Sagar Prahari Bal

The Committee recommends that the Ministry of Home Affairs must actively monitor the status of recruitment of personnel in different States/UTs on a continual basis and should help them, whenever necessary, to overcome any road blocks. The Ministry should also take an early decision on the proposed raising of Marine India Reserve Battalions (MIRB). (Para 3.16.4)

Issues related to Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries

Issuance of Biometric ID Cards to Fishermen

The Committee is constrained to express its displeasure over the slow progress of production and distribution of bio-metric ID Cards of fishermen as only about two third target has been achieved so far. The Committee desires that Government should fix a strict time-line to complete production and distribution of bio-metric I-Cards to fishermen. The Ministry may pursue this issue regularly with the consortium of Central Public Sector Units (CPSUs) and States/UTs for completion of the process within a definite time frame. (Para 3.17.3)

Deliberate Oil Spills by Insurgents

The Committee desires that formulation of scheme of combating oil spills may be done at the earliest. (Para 4.4.2)

Incentives to People Joining Marine Police

The Committee notes the reply and desires that there should be uniformity in the incentives among the state marine police personnel. Early action may be taken after receiving the plans from the states. (Para 4.11.2)

General Issue

The Committee recommends that this issue may be resolved at the earliest so that lives and livelihood of fishermen may not be endangered. The Committee further recommends that the Ministry must take stringent measures to stop illegal activities such as smuggling and narcotics in India's coastal region. (Para 4.14.2)

MINUTES

X
TENTH MEETING

The Committee met at 2.00 P.M. on Thursday, the 5th February, 2015 in Main Committee Room, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

MEMBERS PRESENT

1. Shri P. Bhattacharya — *Chairman*

RAJYA SABHA

2. Shri K. Rahman Khan
3. Shri Avinash Rai Khanna
4. Dr. V. Maitreyan
5. Shri Baishnab Parida

LOK SABHA

6. Shri Prem Singh Chandumajra
7. Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury
8. Shri Selvakumara Chinnayan S.
9. Shrimati Kirron Kher
10. Shri Kaushal Kishore
11. Shri Nagarajan P.
12. Shri Dilip Patel
13. Shri Lalubhai Babubhai Patel
14. Shri Natubhai Gomanbhai Patel
15. Shri Bheemrao B. Patil
16. Shri Bishnu Pada Ray
17. Shri B. Sreeramulu

SECRETARIAT

Shri P.P.K. Ramacharyulu, *Joint Secretary*

Shri Vimal Kumar, *Director*

Shri D.K. Mishra, *Joint Director*

Shri Bhupendra Bhaskar, *Assistant Director*

Shri Anurag Ranjan, *Assistant Director*

WITNESSES**Representatives of Ministry of Home Affairs**

1. Shri L. C. Goyal, Home Secretary
2. Smt. Sneha Lata Kumar, Secretary (BM)
3. Shri Ashok Prasad, Special Secretary (Inter Security)
4. Shri A.K. Singh, Additional Secretary (Centre State relation)
5. Shri Shambhu Singh, Joint Secretary
6. Shri M.A. Ganapathy, Joint Secretary
7. Shri Rajit Punhani, Joint Secretary
8. Shri Sailesh, Joint Secretary
9. Shri H.K. Makwana, Joint Secretary
10. Dr. C. Chandramouli, Joint Secretary and Registrar General of India
11. Shri D.K. Pathak, Director General, Border Security Force
12. Shri R.K. Mishra, ADG, Border Security Force
13. Shri Rajeev Krishna, IG, Border Security Force
14. Shri P.K. Dubey, IG, Border Security Force
15. Shri R.K. Saini, IG, Indo-Tibetan Border Police
16. Brig. P . Verma, Assam Rifles
17. Shri B.D. Sharma, DG, Sashastra Seema Bal
18. Shri Deepak Kumar, IG, Sashastra Seema Bal
19. Shri K. R. Nautiyal, IG, Coast Guard
20. Shri YS. Shahrawat, Chairman, Land Port Authority of India

Representatives of other Ministries/Organisations

21. Ms. Suchitra Durai, Joint Secretary (Sri Lanka, Maldives and Indian Ocean Region), M/o External Affairs
22. Shri Barun Mitra, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Shipping
23. Shri Krishan Dutt Sharma, SE (P), BFR, Central Public Works Department
24. Shri A.P. Joshi, ADG (Border), Central Public Works Department
25. Shri A.K. Mittal, Chairman, National Buildings Construction Corporation Ltd.
26. Shri P.K. Seth, Executive Director, National Buildings Construction Corporation Ltd.
27. Shri H.L. Chaudhury, CMD, National Projects Construction Corporation Ltd.
28. Shri K.K. Sharma, GM, National Projects Construction Corporation Ltd.
29. Co. J. Akhtar, GM, Engineering Projects (India) Ltd.
30. Lt. General R. M. Mittal, DG, Border Roads Organisation
31. Shri Raj Kumar, Director, Ministry of Defence

I. Agenda of the meeting

2.0 At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members of the Committee to the meeting and apprised them the agenda of the day *i.e.*, to hear the presentation of Home Secretary on "Border Management". He stated that the Home Secretary was invited to give a presentation on the subject and the new Home Secretary had arrived alongwith other officers from the Ministries of Shipping & Defence, CPWD, NBCC and others.

II. Declaration of Interests

4.0 The Chairman, then, drew the attention of the Members of the Committee to the provision of Rule 294 (1) of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) about declaration of interests which reads as under:-

"Whenever a member has a personal or specific pecuniary interest (direct or indirect) in a matter being considered by the Council or a Committee thereof, he shall declare the nature of such interest notwithstanding any registration of his interests in the Register, and shall not participate in any debate taking place in the Council or its Committees before making such declaration."

{On the arrival of the witnesses}

III. Presentation of Ministry of Home Affairs

4.0 The Chairman, thereafter, welcomed the Home Secretary, and other senior officers of Ministry of Home Affairs to the sitting of the Committee and invited him to give a presentation on the border management.

4.1 * * *

4.2 The Joint Secretary (Border Management) thereafter, made a presentation involving length of border with neighbouring countries, mandate of the Department, Border Policing, surveillance and patrolling, floodlighting and fencing status as well as construction of BOPs along Indo Bangladesh and Indo Pak Border, issues concerning Indo China Border, Indo Nepal Border, Indo Bhutan Border, Indo Myanmar Border; Status and action taken in respect of Border Guarding and Policing on various borders; challenges of border infrastructure, border trade facilitation, Border Area Development Programme (BADP); issues concerning Coastal security along the Indian coastal line *viz.*, Indian maritime Zone, Coastal Policing, surveillance and Patrolling & State Maine Police; Initiative taken to Improve Coastal Security etc.

4.3 Thereafter, the Chairman and Members of the Committee raised the various issues concerning current status of fencing, flood lighting, construction of strategic roads and BOPs along borders, development of integrated check posts on the borders and Phase I and Phase II of the Coastal Security Schemes and the experiences gained during implementing these projects/schemes and the budgetary provisions for these projects/schemes and the future requirements and also Budget for skill development. Members also raised the issues of illegal immigration, smuggling activities particularly cattle smuggling along the Bangladesh borders, reports of connivance of border guarding forces personnel in such activities and action taken against them, issues concerning fisher men with Sri Lanka and overall

responsibility for maritime security in entire maritime domain, situation at Indo -Myanmar Border in the light of recent reports of Bodo militants taking shelter in Myanmar after killings of tribal's in Assam and reports of China's objections to India's infrastructure development in the border areas and response of the Government.

4.4 Replying to the queries of the members, the representatives of the Ministry intimated that BSF has 'Crocodile Commandoes' for coastal security purpose which have specialised manpower for this purpose, especially, for the Creek area of Gujarat. About the problems being faced along the China border particularly infrastructure on both sides *vis-a-vis* India, it was stated that Chinese are ahead of India in terms of road connectivity and in terms of surveillance equipment, and on Indian side, the terrain is difficult and in Arunachal, it is a forested area and there are a lot of rivers *en route*. In other places, the difficulty that India face is because of high altitude. India probably started a bit late which needed to be expedited. Apart from roads, India needed to construct operational tracks and foot suspension bridges and other bridges, and India further needed to place surveillance equipments on the borders also. Regarding the Border Area Development Programme, it was stated that the programme is, implemented to fill the existing gaps in infrastructure, services, etc

4.6 * * *

5.0 A Verbatim record of the Proceeding of the meeting was kept.

6.0 The Committee then adjourned at 4.14 P.M.

XVI
SIXTEENTH MEETING

The Committee met at 3.00 P.M. on Thursday, the 11th June, 2015 in Main Committee Room, Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

MEMBERS PRESENT

1. Shri P. Bhattacharya — *Chairman*

RAJYA SABHA

2. Shri K. Rahman Khan
3. Shri Avinash Rai Khanna
4. Dr. V. Maitreya
5. Shri Neeraj Shekhar
6. Shri Baishnab Parida
7. Shri D. Raja
8. Shri Sitaram Yechury

LOK SABHA

9. Shri Prem Singh Chandumajra
10. Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury
11. Shri Selvakumara Chinnayan S.
12. Shri Ramen Deka
13. Shri Mallikarjun Kharge
14. Shri Kaushal Kishore
15. Shri Harish Meena
16. Shri Nagarajan P.
17. Shri Dilip Patel
18. Shri Lalubhai Babubhai Patel
19. Shri Bheemrao B. Patil
20. Shri Bishnu Pada Ray

SECRETARIAT

Shri P.P.K. Ramacharyulu, *Joint Secretary*
Shri Vimal Kumar, *Director*
Shri Bhupendra Bhaskar, *Assistant Director*
Shri Anurag Ranjan, *Assistant Director*

WITNESSES

Representatives of Ministry of Home Affairs

1. Shri L. C. Goyal, Home Secretary
2. Shri Anoop Kumar Srivastava, Secretary (BM)
3. Shri H.K. Makwana, Joint Secretary (BM)
4. Shrimati Bina Prasad, Joint Secretary (C&PG)
5. Shri Sailesh, Joint Secretary (P-II)
6. Shri Rajit Punhani, Joint Secretary (J&K)
7. Shri M.A. Ganapathy, Joint Secretary (IS-I)
8. Shri S.K. Chakraborty, Addl. RGI
9. Shri Shambhu Singh, Joint Secretary (NE)
10. Shri V. Vumlunmang, Joint Secretary (PM)
11. Shri G.K. Dwivedi, Joint Secretary (F)
12. Shri Dilip Kumar, Joint Secretary (FFR)
13. Shri Y. S. Sehwat, Chariman, LPAI
14. Shri J. S. Chaddha, Consultant, LPAI
15. Shri Pankaj Goyal, Director

Representatives of Ministry of External Affairs

Shrimati S. Ranganathan, Joint Secretary

Representatives of Ministry of Defence

Shri Naveen Kumar, Director

Representatives of Border Road Organisation (BRO)

1. Maj. Gen. Balraj Singh, OSD
2. Shri A.K. Dikshit, SE

Representatives of Assam Rifles

1. Lt. Gen. R.K. Rana, Director General, Assam Rifles
2. Capt. Abhishek Chhikara, ADC to DG, Assam Rifles

Representatives of Border Security Force (BSF)

1. Shri K.K. Sharma, ADG
2. Shri Rajeev Krishna, IG
3. Shri Pardeep Katyal, DIG

Representatives of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)

1. Shri Krishna Chaudhry, DG
2. Shri R.K. Saini, IG

Representatives of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB)

1. Shri B.D. Sharma, DG
2. Shri Deepak Kumar, IG

Representatives of Coast Guard

Shri K.R. Suresh, DIG

Representatives of National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC)

1. Dr. A.K. Mittal, CMD
2. Ms. A. Sabeena, GM

Representatives of Central Public Works Department (CPWD)

1. Shri K.K. Peshin, Chief Engineer
2. Shri M.K. Sharma, Chief Engineer (IBBZ)

2.0 At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the Members of the Committee to the meeting and apprised them the agenda of the day *i.e.* to consider and adopt the draft 18th and 188th Action Taken Reports and to seek further clarifications from the Home Secretary on the issues raised by the- Members on the subject 'Border Management' in the light of the Committee's meeting held on 5th February, 2015 and the issue concerning the status on Indo-Bangladesh Border.

3.0 The Chairman, then, read out the contents of Rule 294 (1) of Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) about declaration of interests:-

III. Consideration of Draft 187th And 188th Action Taken Reports

4.0 The Committee then took up the draft 18th Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 17th Report on Coastal Security Scheme. After a brief discussion, the report was adopted.

4.1 * * *

4.2 The Committee also authorized the Chairman to carry out any typographical/factual errors and if necessary further vetting.

{On the arrival of the witnesses}

IV. * * *

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- 5.4 * * *
- 6.0 A Verbatim record of the Proceedings was kept.
- 7.0 The Committee then adjourned at 4.35 P.M.

