

Regarding Navy Day Celebration

CAPTAIN VIRIATO FERNANDES (SOUTH GOA): Thank you, hon. Chairperson Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

Sir, today is the Indian Navy Day. As a former Navy Officer, it gives me immense pride to wish the Officers, the Sailors, the Defence civilian personnel and their families, not forgetting the veterans and those who have lost their lives while serving the country.

This year, the Indian Navy Day theme is 'Strength and Power through Innovation and Indigenisation'. Over the years, the Indian Navy has improvised, improved, and played a critical role in the country's defence setup. The Indian Navy Day honours the success of 'Operation Trident' that was audaciously launched, I repeat, audaciously launched, on the intervening night of 3rd and 4th December that crippled the Karachi Port and turned the entire situation in favour of India during the war of 1971.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: Kindly put your demand.

CAPTAIN VIRIATO FERNANDES: Sir, today, I can say with utmost pride that Navy's contribution in maintaining peace in the Indian Ocean, ensuring security of critical trade routes, and fostering maritime cooperation is tremendous.

HON. CHAIRPERSON: We must appreciate your sincerity. You are aware about this. Kindly put your demand.

CAPTAIN VIRIATO FERNANDES: Sir, I once again wish the personnel on this important day. Thank you.