

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3101  
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2006  
JOINT NAVAL EXERCISE WITH FRANCE  
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**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Indian Navy has conducted joint exercise with France in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the expenditure incurred on the said exercise; and
- (d) the extent to which Indian Navy has been benefited by the joint exercises?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

- (a) & (b): A joint exercise 'Varuna 2006' was conducted between Indian Navy and French Navy off Goa from 27th March, 2006 to 7th April, 2006.
- (c) As the exercise was conducted in Indian waters, no extra expenditure, other than the normal operating cost of Indian ships, was incurred during 'Varuna 2006'. The Indian Naval ships would have otherwise planned their own exercises, if 'Varuna 2006' had not been conducted.
- (d) the Indian Navy has got exposure to current international developments in naval warfare tactics and the latest technology.