

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:252
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2004
FLEET STRENGTH OF INDIAN NAVY
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the fleet strength of Indian Navy is shrinking;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Indian Navy is being forced to work with very old vessels;
- (d) if so, the number of vessels which are more than 20 years old;
- (e) the details of Government plan to replace the old fleet; and
- (f) the measures taken/proposed to enhance Naval fleet?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

- (a) & (b): The fleet strength of the Indian Navy increases or decreases as per the planned programme of the Navy for induction of new ships or decommissioning of old ships.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) to (f): It will not be in national interest to disclose these details.