



भारतीय नौसेना

COASTAL SECURITY INITIATIVES

Since Nov 2008, several initiatives have been taken by the Government to strengthen security of the coastal areas against the threat of non-state actors from sea. One of the most significant achievements of the last year has been the integration of all maritime stakeholders, including the several State and Central agencies into the coastal security. **Indian Navy has established four Joint Operation Centres (JOC) at Mumbai, Visakhapatnam, Kochi and Port Blair** as a result of this there is unprecedented coordination, synergy and understanding between all agencies. All coastal security operations are now coordinated from the Joint Operations Centre, which are manned round the clock by Naval and Coast Guard teams. In addition, the state Marine Police and other agencies such as Customs, Intelligence Bureau, Ports etc are also networked with these centres. Besides the four Joint Operation Centres each coastal district also has its own Operation Centre for coordinating activity in their districts.



Awareness Campaigns. In a focused drive to enlist the support of fishermen for their role, awareness campaigns have been carried out for the fishing communities. Joint motorcycle rallies by the Navy, Coast Guard and State Police have been conducted in each coastal state, covering all coastal districts. Villagers and fishermen in almost every coastal village have been made aware to threats from the sea and the measures they could take to contribute to coastal security.

Surveillance Patrols. There has been a increase in the efforts for coastal surveillance patrols by Naval and Coast Guard ships and aircraft. Patrols by the Indian Navy and Coast Guard are closely coordinated so as to maximise efforts and keep the entire coast under surveillance. The Marine Police of each coastal state and CISF units deployed at all major ports are being assisted by the Navy and Coast Guard for coastal patrols. Because of better surveillance and alertness, ships straying into our waters are being immediately noticed and interrogated.

Marine Training. Recognizing that the Marine Police and CISF are not fully trained in maritime tasks, the Indian Navy has provided training assistance to all coastal states and CISF personnel. **1600 Marine Police and 263 CISF personnel have already undergone training at INS Chilka**, the premier training establishment for sailors in the Indian Navy.

Coastal Security Exercises. In order to periodically review the readiness of the security agencies and the state administrations in thwarting threats from inimical elements, the Indian Navy has conducted coastal security exercises in every coastal state in conjunction with the Coast Guard, marine police, customs, and immigration and Port authorities. **In all 08 exercises on West coast, 04 on East coast and 02 in A&N Islands have been conducted.** During these exercises several contingency scenarios are simulated, including hijacking of fishing craft, landing of terrorists on the coast, stowaways on ships etc. All agencies with a stake in coastal security participate in these exercises with a view to improve coordination, achieve integration and finally improve the coastal security mechanism.