

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3263**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 31.03.2022

**COOPERATION WITH FRANCE IN BLUE ECONOMY AND OCEAN  
GOVERNANCE**

3263. SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY:

SHRI VAIKO:

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state

- (a) whether India and France have recently adopted a road map on the Blue Economy and Ocean Governance;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any other points were discussed when the two Foreign Ministers met in France recently; and
- (d) whether any progress was made for cooperation in the fields of defence and security, health, education, research and innovation, climate change etc. the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
[SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) & (b) On 20 February 2022, India and France adopted a roadmap on cooperation on the Blue Economy and Ocean Governance. Under the Roadmap, it has been agreed to forge a common vision of ocean governance based on the rule of law, make blue economy a source of sustainable growth, build sustainable, resilient coastal and inland waterway infrastructure and also conduct scientific and research activities for protection of marine biodiversity and promotion of eco-tourism.

(c) & (d) During the meeting between External Affairs Minister and Mr Jean-Yves Le Drian, French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, on 20 February, 2022 in Paris, discussions were held on the entire gamut of India-France bilateral strategic partnership, including trade and investments, defence and security, health, education, research and innovation, energy and climate change. Key regional and global issues of mutual concern were also discussed, including the need to restart negotiations on the India-EU Free Trade and Investment Agreement at the earliest.

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