

for their return to Bangladesh and live with safety and security. Efforts are continuing to secure early return of these refugees.

Technical Bids for Flaring Reduction Protects at Bombay High

7622. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
DR. A.K. PATEL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry had ordered an inquiry into the extension of the date of offering technical bids by the ONGC for its gas flaring reduction projects at Bombay High;

(b) if so, the findings thereof; and

(c) the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Pak's Acquisition of Missiles from China

7623. SHRI DHARAM PAL SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the recent reports regarding Pakistan's acquisition of M-11 and M-9 missiles from China;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the Government have any information about the striking range of these missiles; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An official spokesman of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been reported to have stated that China had sold "a very small number of short range tactical missiles" to Pakistan. However, there is no confirmation of the kind of missiles sold. Government have in their discussions with the Chinese Government, emphasised that the supply of sophisticated arms and missiles to Pakistan beyond its legitimate requirements of defence, poses a threat to India's security and is not conducive to the maintenance of peace and stability in South Asia. Government have additionally stressed the need for avoidance of actions that do not build mutual confidence and understanding between India and China.

(c) and (d). The official spokesman of the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs is reported to have stated that the short range missiles sold by China to Pakistan have a range of about 200 kilometres.

[*Translation*]

Elimination of Terrorism and Protection of Human Rights

7624. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the efforts made by India to uphold its policy of eliminating terrorism and protecting human rights in the world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): India has stressed at various international fora the importance of taking urgent and effective steps to deal with terrorism, which has of late emerged as a most dangerous and pernicious threat to

human rights and fundamental freedoms. We have also actively contributed to the consideration at the UN Human Rights Commission and the UN General Assembly of items relating to the protection and promotion of human rights. Government have also briefed Foreign leaders and eminent persons about India's principled and consistent policies in this regard during bilateral discussions.

[English]

Communal Propaganda by Pakistan TV

7625. SHRI PRITHVIRAJD. CHAVAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan's external television PTVZ had beamed communal propaganda at the Indian territory before the recent Punjab elections;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken up this matter with Pakistan and at the international fora; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Pakistan external television in its report on the Punjab elections, sought to highlight some communal aspects by using the nomenclature "Sikhs" while referring to the Akalis and other political and religious formations as well as the militants. The demands of some Akali leaders for an independent Sikh State and elections under UN supervision were also played up. Pakistan TV also used the term "Extremist Hindus" while describing the participants in the BJP's Ekta Yatra.

(c) and (d). The Government of India has, on numerous occasions, told the Government of Pakistan to stop the Pakistan Government controlled media from indulging in hostile propaganda against India.

The Government of India has also apprised foreign Governments about the Pakistan Government controlled media's deliberate and malicious misrepresentation of developments in India.

[Translation]

Alleged use of Sub-standard material In Barbed Wire Fencing

7626. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV:
SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA
NAYAK:
SHRI LAL BABU RAI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether sub-standard material has been used for erecting barbed wire fencing on Indo-Pak border;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken so far against the persons found guilty in the investigation conducted in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (c). After completion of work in the first phase, minor deficiencies were noticed in some works at a few places. For these, appropriate deductions have been made from the contractors' bills. The matter is under investigation in consultation with the Central Vigilance Commission.