

(a) whether it is a fact that HAL has drawn up a perspective plan for next ten to fifteen years for design and development of a number of aircrafts, engine and associated accessories ;

(b) whether Government propose to pay proper heed to these attempts of indigenous development of our defence production ; and

(c) whether Government have approved the programme ; and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
(SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN) :

(a) and (c) A perspective plan for HAL for the next ten to fifteen years for design and development of aircraft, engine and associated accessories is being drawn up. It has not yet been finalised.

(b) The policy is to encourage indigenous development to the maximum possible extent.

**Take over of Azam Jahi Mills, Warangal  
(Andhra Pradesh).**

6350. SHRI RAMALUDDIN AHMED :  
Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state ;

(a) when was the Azam Jahi Mills, Warangal in Andhra Pradesh taken over by National Textile Corporation;

(b) what was the number of employees on the day the mills was taken over; and

(c) the number of employees as on to-day.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA) : (a) The Management of this mill was taken over by the Central Govt., with effect from the 30th April, 1971, under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951, and the National Textile Corporation was appointed as 'Authorised Person'.

(b) There were 6,150 employees in the mill at the time of its take over.

(c) There are 4,678 employees in the mill at present.

**Acquisition of Matra Air-to-Air Missile**

6351. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA :  
Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that recently acquired Matra R 550 air to air missile is considered by Defence experts as India's answer to the F-16 Pakistan threat;

(b) if so, steps to be taken for the acquisition of above weapons in sufficient quantity; and

(c) other steps to be taken to meet the recent threat of Pakistan's other new weapons acquired from the USA ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
(SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN) : (a) to (c) The R 550, an air-to-air close combat missile, is one of the various armaments used to defend against air threat. A number of other measures such as early detection of threat, provision of ground based anti aircraft measures and use of high performance air combat aircraft are employed to counter threat from aircraft of F-16 class.

Government take appropriate measures to ensure a state of full preparedness taking into consideration changes that take place in the surrounding threat environment. It is not in public interest to disclose counter measures.

**Import of Waste Paper Containing Holy  
Books**

6352. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA :  
Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is fact that consignments of waste paper imported recently at Khider Docks at Calcutta contained a large quantity of copies of the Holy Quran and other holy books;