

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Let us stand in silence for a minute and offer condolences to those who died in the accident.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ (South-Delhi) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the members of this House can at least observe two minutes silence in the memory of the persons killed in this accident. After that, Question Hour can be taken up.

[English]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let us have full information. We will do it at the appropriate time.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : The condoling of deaths does not require any information. We should stand up in silence. ...*(Interruptions)*.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : He should share information with us. ...*(Interruptions)*.

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : The train was coming from Bangalore to Delhi. I represent Bangalore. There is a gloom and despair in Bangalore regarding the accident. Many persons have died. We do not know how many people have died. The Railway Board does not know the exact figure. The media tells some number. There is a confusion.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : After Question Hour, let the Railway Minister come and reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Whatever information he has got, let the Minister share it with us.

[Translation]

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Minister has said what he had to say. Now you please take your seats. This matter can be considered after the Minister of Railways gives information on his return.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : The ghasty accident took place at around 11.00 p.m. Twelve hours after the accident took place. ...*(Interruptions)*.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : He should tell whatever information he has.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : I think, in another one or two hours, we can get all the information. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : The Railway Minister has gone there. Let him come back and tell us what delayed him to be present in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*

11.05 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

Pak Test Fire of Hatf Missiles

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*61. SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY :
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that Pakistan has successfully test-fired 'Hatf 3' missile capable of striking a distance of 800 kilometres;

(b) if so, whether Pakistan has obtained capacity of missile technology;

(c) if so, whether M-11 missiles supplied by China to Pakistan has also been put on borders connected with India;

(d) if so, whether Pakistan has alleged that India has put Prithvi missile near the borders of Pakistan; and

(e) if so, the facts thereof and the action Government propose to take to meet the situation created by the missile testing of Pakistan?

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (e) Government are aware that Pakistan is building her missile capabilities through acquisition of M-11 Missiles from China as also through indigenous development of missiles including HATF with technological assistance from China. Government are also aware of Pakistan's allegation of deployment of Prithvi missile near border. All the developments relating to acquisition and deployment of missiles by Pakistan are constantly monitored.

With a view to equipping our Armed Forces with State-of-Art missiles, Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme was sanctioned by the Government in 1983. The design and development of missiles under this programme is progressing as planned.

Prithvi missile has gone into production. Other missiles are at various stages of development.

All necessary steps are taken by Government to maintain appropriate defence preparedness to thwart any attempt of misadventure on the part of our adversaries.

[*English*]

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, through you, I would like to ask a question regarding the interview given by the Foreign Minister of Pakistan, Shri Gohar Ayub Khan on 26th July in which he has stated that Pakistan is ready to sign a non-nuclear treaty. For the first time any Government official of Pakistan has accepted that they do have the technological collaboration with China in the field of Defence particularly with reference to hi-tech tanks. However, in the same interview he did not admit that whether that collaboration extends further to the field of missile technology also. I would like to have the comments of the Minister of Defence on that.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : So far as technology is concerned it is no more a secret that China is fully assisting Pakistan. Now the question is that Pakistan is not prepared to sign, you are aware of it also. However, the reality is that our country has no danger whatsoever. I would like to assure the House that irrespective of the fact that China or for that matter any other country assists Pakistan, we are fully capable of defending our borders.

[*English*]

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Sir, my second supplementary consists of two parts. The first part is, in the recent meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Defence, some of the members asked the Ministry that they should consider setting up of a National Security Council which should be over and above all the three Chiefs of the Armed Forces. I would like to know whether the Government has any intention of establishing a National Security Council.

My second supplementary is of great concern both to me as well as the entire country. In the meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Defence, it is believed that the hon. Minister of Defence conceded that due to lack of funds some of the on-going programmes had to be shelved or some of them could not be completed. Our neighbouring country China, for example, is spending almost five per cent of the G.D.P. and Pakistan is spending seven per cent of the G.D.P.

which is a cumulative increase of almost 14.8 per cent as compared to last year. In view of these facts, I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Defence whether he can assure this House that we would have enough funds or that they can procure enough funds so that the nation's security is not threatened.

[*Translation*]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Sir, so far as the question of setting up the National Security Council is concerned, the issue was discussed sometime back. So far no decision has been taken on that. So far as China is concerned, that country has been making full preparations. But so far as money is concerned, hon. Minister of Finance had assured that the defence requirement would be fully met. I want to assure the House that funds would not be the obstacle in the matter of defence. Any amount of funds required for defence would be provided. I also want to assure that our country faces no danger from any country whatsoever.

[*English*]

SHRI G.A. CHARAN REDDY : Sir, the hon. Minister did not reply to the first part of my second supplementary which relates to the National Security Council. Is the Government intending to establish a National Security Council? That was the first part of my second supplementary question.

[*Translation*]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have asked both of your questions. Would the hon. Minister like to say something in this regard?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I had stated in the reply, perhaps the hon. Member did not listen that this matter is under consideration and no decision has been taken as yet.

[*English*]

SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Pakistan's reportedly successfully test firing of a medium range missile with a target range upto 800 kms, which could even be a nuclear tipped warhead would have, no doubt, drastic security implications for India. There is however, another angle to this exercise. The timing of this test firing just in the wake of the conclusion of the Foreign Secretary level talks raises the question whether the Pakistani Armed Forces disapprove these talks since in Pakistan it is they and not the civilian authorities who are supreme.

May I know from the Government that in the face of such hostile attitude of the Armed Forces towards talks with India and as occasionally revealed in the editorials of their official organ, the *'Al Hilaf'*, how much can we achieve at the bureaucratic level talks, since one stroke of such action may negate the climate and the spirit of such talks?

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, so far as testing of 800 k.m. range missile of Pakistan is concerned I do not want to go into its truth. But we are fully prepared to meet the threat. The talks are still going on. But on this occasion this sort of test end discussion is not good. We are sure that Pakistan will consider it. We expect from them that talks will be held successfully.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : This special question is related to the security of the country. The question asked in parts 'a' and 'c' has not been replied clearly. The reply is ambiguous. In part 'a' of the question it was asked whether the Government are aware that Pakistan has successfully tested the 800 k.m. range HATF-3 missiles? I would like to tell the Minister of Defence that he should reply clearly whether Pakistan has successfully tested this with the help of China or with the help of any other country. Similarly in part 'c' of the question it was asked that if the reply is in affirmative whether M-11 missile given to Pakistan by China has been installed at the border adjacent to India?

It should also be replied clearly whether the Government of India or Defence Ministry are aware that M-11 has been installed at Indian Border after successful test and if so, the names of major installations of our country that come within its range and the details of the steps to be taken by Ministry of Defence to deal with it? It is a direct question.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : The reply to his question is that we are aware. Now the question arises whether the successful test of 800 km. missile has taken place or not. We presume that it has been tested successfully. But in spite of that the entire country comes under its 800 km. range, but we are prepared to give them a befitting reply.

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Please give a specific reply whether we are capable or not. ...*(Interruptions)* All major installations of our country come under 800 km. range.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : I admit it myself. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : No Please, you must tell us if you do not disclose it in the Lok Sabha, where will it be told? Will we get the information from newspapers as to what do we have in our possession.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : So far as it is concerned, the policy of our country is that on several occasions. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Just listen please.

...*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT : Please assure the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : So far as our country is concerned, we are not aggressors. We do not want to harm anybody. We are peace lovers. But I want to assure that if someone attacks us and if there is any enemy, we are capable of giving a befitting reply. Now the question is as to what we have. There is no need to mention all these here. I want to assure that even if our entire country comes within its range we are fully capable of facing that.

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to say that the Government have admitted that M-11 missile has been supplied to Pakistan by China and through that Pakistan has developed six missiles till date. Secondly, news is that China has

[English]

Conversion of CSS-2 liquid fuel missiles into CSS-5 Model-1 solid fuel missiles.

[Translation]

which has been developed now and solid fuel has also been put into that. They say that it is very easy to deploy it. Not only India but the big powers of the world viz. Moscow, Japan also come within its range. Our entire country comes within its range. There was a collaboration between Pakistan and China on missile development prior to this. Have our Government thought in the context of dealing with the situation in case of a war? Secondly. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : You have to ask only one supplementary.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. NAMGYAL : In the second part of supplementary I would like to know whether the HATF

missile which has been developed by them, has the capability of carrying Nuclear War Head? If so, what do we have to give a counter reply?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : As far the first question is concerned, I have already stated that Pakistan and China are developing jointly and our Government want to assure the entire country in this regard that we are fully aware of this and we have full information in this regard. Secondly, we are capable to face that. If it has the range of 800 kms., we are capable to face that even. The second question you have raised about the nuclear missile. If they have nuclear missile or any other such thing or they have the range of 800 kms. then we are not only able to face it but are capable of giving a befitting reply.

SHRI ILLIYAS AZMI : Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Defence Minister as to whether the Government are aware of the number of Hatf Missiles made by Pakistan? Is the Hatf Missile superior to our Prithvi Missile or equal to it or inferior to it?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : As far as the number of missiles in their possession is concerned, we know that they have 84, M-11 missiles. So far as Hatf missile is concerned, we do not know the exact number as yet. They have conducted the test, this information may be factual or false but we would like to assure you that we are ready to face each and every eventuality.

SHRI ILLIYAS AZMI : What about Prithvi and Hatf?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : The range of 800 kms. is more than the range of Prithvi missile and we are capable to face it.

SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH : Sir, my question is about the preparation. So much has been discussed about the missile. I would like to ask a question related to this issue only. When we visited last year, we were informed that the light combat aircraft would be ready and would be flown that year itself but now the news has come that the Government is compelled to follow that schedule. I would like to know the economical or technical reasons thereof. Light Combat Aircraft is very much essential for our Air Force. What is the programme of the Government with regard to it and why it is being delayed?

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : The question is separate but even then. ...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : It pertains to the security of the country.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : There is no economic crunch for the security of the country. The requirement for this would be met. Therefore, I would like to assure in this House that there is nothing to be worried about in this regard.

COL. SONA RAM CHOUDHARY : Sir, Pakistan has been acquiring missiles continuously and we too are making efforts in this direction. What are we thinking with regard to the ground defence keeping in view the happening in Gulf countries? I am from western Rajasthan and Falaudi is near my constituency. There are big gaps in Bikaner, Barmer and Jaisalmer. And Falaudi and Deesa are among these gaps. A field was to be constructed in this area during 1981-82 and nothing has been done so far in this regard even after 15-16 years. What I mean to say is that if a missile is fired from that side targeting Delhi or Mumbai, what efforts are being made to strengthen our ground defence to destroy it? Shrimati Indira Gandhi had said in 1981 that air-field in Falaudi and Deesa would be completed. This issue is in the files but now 16 years have passed, nothing has been done with regard to it till date. When asked about it then, it is stated that there are no funds. Therefore, I would like to ask and tell that we should ponder over the ground defence.

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : We are able to destroy and efforts are being made and success would be achieved very soon. We are making all efforts to destroy any missile or any attack and we would get success soon. There is no economic hurdle in this regard. Nothing would come in the way of defence.

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : I want to put a question to the Defence Minister about an important aspect which has been raised in part (d) of the Question. It is about the movement of the Prithvi missiles near the border of Pakistan. As you know, Sir, this news was leaked by the *Washington Post* obtained from a CIA source. What I would like to know is this. How is it that the movement of our missiles is being tracked by the foreign intelligence agencies? Is there any lacuna in hiding the movement of our missiles? Or, is it open to the American satellite? Can they find out whatever you are doing wherever it may be? If the American satellite can find out the movement of our missiles and if they can warn our enemy about it, I would consider this as a serious lapse. This is part-one of my question.

The second part of the question relates to the recent ban of the American Government on some of our Defence public sector industries under MTCR. Companies like Bharat Electronics and Bharat Dynamics have been put on a watch list by which no strategic material will be

allowed to be imported from Western countries. I want a reply from the Minister on these two parts.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : Sir, as the hon. Member has mentioned about Prithvi missile that the information in this regard has been given to the USA, then it is a well known fact that we have test-fired it and we accept it. The whole world knows about it and there is nothing astonishing if the USA knows about it. We accept it and admit it. The hon. leader of opposition had also given a statement as to why the Prithvi missiles were carried from Hyderabad to Jalandhar and that should have been deployed on the border. The hon. leader of opposition, who had been the Prime Minister and hon. Pramod Mahajan, who had been the Minister of Defence, it is a well known fact. ... (Interruptions)

[English]

SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : How did they know about it?

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : But the point is that the Americans have announced it before we made any announcement.

[Translation]

SHRI MULAYAM SINGH YADAV : As far as this question is concerned, there are some powers of the world which do not want that relations should be good with Pakistan or any other country. Therefore, it appears in the newspaper of a country that China or Pakistan or India has deployed the missile within the striking range. There is just one country which publishes our newspaper only and then we should understand that there are some imperialist powers which do not want peace in Asia.

[English]

Rastogi Committee

*62. PROF. P.J. KURIEN :
SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rastogi Committee instituted by the UGC for revision of pay scales of college teachers has recently submitted its report;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee;

(c) the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(d) by what time they are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIKANTA JENA) : (a) to (d) Rastogi Committee, being a Committee of the University Grants Commission (UGC), has submitted its report to the Commission which has initiated an indepth examination of the recommendations made. Central Government will have occasion to examine Rastogi Committee Report alongwith UGC's views thereon only after the Commission completes its examination and transmits the Report to the Department of Education.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : What is this? Even the Minister of Education is not here. We have asked a specific question as to whether the Rastogi Committee has submitted its Report and if so, what are the recommendations. The Government has admitted that the Report has been submitted but no details are given. What is the purpose of asking this question? I seek your protection. This question is being treated in such a casual way. I want a ruling on this. They have admitted that the Report has been submitted to the UGC. The UGC is a part of the Government. Are you saying that the UGC is not under you? Can you not get details of the Report from the UGC? I am sorry to say that the Ministers do not know their responsibilities. Therefore, I am asking the Minister to answer to the first basic question as to what are the details. If you cannot give the details, at least give the salient features of the report submitted by the Rastogi Committee. This is not a supplementary question, I am repeating the main question.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA : The question is that the UGC appointed a Committee for the pay revision. Committees like the Rastogi Committee have submitted their reports in the past also to the UGC. The UGC, after examination of the recommendations of that Committee recommends their views to the Government. The Government gives its recommendations after getting the views from the UGC. If you want to know the recommendations of the Rastogi Committee to the UGC, they are available. The UGC has already announced it. The UGC takes a final view on it once it receives the recommendations of the Rastogi Committee and then UGC recommends to the Government to implement it. If you want to know the recommendations of the Rastogi Committee, I will certainly give the highlights of it. I am not hesitating to give the highlights of the recommendations of the Rastogi Committee.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : You please see the question. I have only asked whether the Rastogi Committee has