

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2081  
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2000  
NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY  
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

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

- (a) whether Pakistan is further developing its nuclear weapons capabilities and matching warheads to missiles posing a challenge and threat to India and also threat to peace in South Asia;
- (b) if so, whether US Government is aware about all these facts;
- (c) if so, whether India is also developing the same in view of the Pakistan's decision to further improve nuclear weapons capabilities; and
- (d) if so, the extent to which India propose to further develop its nuclear weapons capability?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

- (a) Yes Sir. It is assessed that efforts by Pakistan to enhance its nuclear capabilities, including in the areas of fissile material production, weaponisation and delivery systems, continue.
- (b) Government has in its bilateral dialogues with key countries, including the US, conveyed its concerns regarding nuclear and missile proliferation in Pakistan and its adverse impact on India's security.
- (c), (d) Government remains fully committed to taking all necessary steps to effectively safeguard India's security and national interest in accordance with its own threat perception.