

I would say that the issue of population is not so much due to lack of funds. It has several dimensions. One, of course, is the status of women. You will see that all those States which are lagging behind are the ones where the position of women is not good. . . (Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER : We are going to have a Special Session of Parliament on this issue..

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : That is why, the central point that I have been making several times is that unless we change our social attitude about the women and their status as also that of the girl child, till then family planning will not reach the mark that we want it to. Education is a very important part of women's education. That is why, the total picture has to be kept in view.

The second point we have to keep in mind is the fact that particularly in backward States, poverty and family planning are the two sides of the same coin. That is why, the total attitude of the Government of India follows from that. Not only of this Government but my preceding Governments also have been following that and we primarily feel that we treat the whole thing as a total one. So the question of white money or black-money is not a relevant issue, but the social attitude is the issue. That is why, you see that the figures that my hon. friend has given to you, show that more backward a State is, the bigger the population will be. Since my friend comes from a State which is not too bright in this, I do hope that he will lead a movement in this. When we look at these things, only then things can improve because we, in politics and in public life, have a social responsibility in this context as well.

MR. SPEAKER : I have already announced the other day that we are going to have a Special Session of Parliament and the main topic of discussion is going to be the Population Control. You will have an adequate opportunity to discuss this matter on the floor of the House.

Let me make one small remark. In your reply, you have stated that you are involving the FICCI, the PHD and the ASSOCHAM. It is very good. What is more important in this area is to involve the trade unions because they are the organisations who are working with the workers. Trade unions have to be involved in this movement. In fact, in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, you have a Tripartite Committee. I do not know how many times the meeting of that Committee has been held. In my seven years as the Labour Minister, I think, hardly twice the meeting had taken place. So, please activate that Tripartite

Committee and involve the trade unions in this.

### Chemical Weapons

\*203. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:  
SHRI YELLAIAH NANDI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Pakistan Government are continuing to build chemical weapons with the help of China and other countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the chemical weapons under the possession of Pakistan;
- (d) the details of other military hardware supplied by China to Pakistan;
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Indian Government to highlight the issue of transfer of weapons and technology by China to Pakistan; and
- (f) the extent of success achieved by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) to (c) Government are aware of press reports about Pakistan having a suspected chemical weapons programme. However, the Pakistan Government has in an official statement stated *inter-alia* that "Pakistan has always been an ardent advocate of a complete ban on the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons".

(d) China is reported to have supplied Pakistan weapons, tanks, warships, aircraft, missiles and related technologies for the past four decades.

(e) and (f) Government have highlighted in bilateral and multilateral fora its concern at the continuing supply by China of sophisticated weapons and related technology to Pakistan beyond its legitimate requirements. Government have made it clear that this poses a threat to India's Security and is not conducive to the maintenance of peace and stability in the region. Government have been taking necessary steps to safeguard the security and national interest and will continue to do so in keeping with its assessment of developments pertaining to India's security environment.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is a strange coincidence that the day on which Parliament has paid homage to the persons killed in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, on the same day we have to have a discussion

on chemical weapons. India has signed on Chemical Weapons Convention and ratified its support. It has opened its chemical weapons stock for inspection and the inspection has already started in Pune. Chemical weapons are increasing in Pakistan. Such type of news has published in the newspapers and the Government has accepted this fact in its reply. But the Government has added that the Pakistan Government has said this that they are in favour of total ban on chemical weapons. But from the reply of the Government it does not seem that Indian Government has faith on this assurance of Pakistan Government or not. This statement of Pakistan Government is trust worthy or not. Because it seems to me that Pakistan has signed the Chemical Weapon Convention but till date has neither supported nor ratified it and therefore has not opened the weapon stock for inspection. I would like to know from the Prime Minister that in such situation, when we have the biggest danger from Pakistan and they have not ratified the Chemical Weapon Convention and are not allowing the inspection to be carried out and we have opened our doors for inspection, whether we give any time bound period for it to Pakistan that in such period if they ratified, then only inspection will be carried out? It will be better for both the countries not to have weapons. But till Pakistan not ratify this and both sides not allow their weapons stock to be inspected, then in such a situation whether we will reconsider our commitment and support over it ?

[English]

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : Sir, this issue had been raised here earlier as well. Two points, I had made and I want to repeat them. One, the Convention itself provides that we can walk out of it whenever we feel that our national interests so demand.

So far as the declaration and ratification are concerned, now it is an open thing that we have this capacity and we can look after ourselves. That does not mean immediate destruction, that means, we have the weapons and we have shown to the world. Like us, 60 or more countries have submitted their declaration. Therefore, this by itself is a deterrent that we have it. We have the capacity also to make it. That was also a national capacity. That destruction process is very gradual.

At every stage of its growth, we keep a watch on possible adversaries. Therefore, if at any stage, we feel that our security is in danger, we will have a second look at the whole thing.

[Translation]

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sir, my second question is related with weapons given to Pakistan by China. I would like to know from the Prime Minister that China has not

only given weapons to Pakistan but is also transferring the Technology and know how to them. This is an open secret that China has not only given M-11 to Pakistan but also transferred the technology of M-9. Because of this, they have improved M-11 and made HATF-III which could not be manufactured according to their knowledge and Power.

In such situation by transfer of M-9 technology and helping in manufacture of HATF-III, whose range is upto 700-800 kilometer, has posed a great danger or the security of India. In such situation there are my two supplementaries that whether keeping in view this situation Government of India will take a formal decision to deploy 'Prithvi' and increase the range of 'Agni'? Defence Minister has talked about deployment of 'Prithvi' and increasing the speed of 'Agni' manufacture in public meeting of Kanpur. But I would like to have a reply from Hon'ble Prime Minister in the Parliament.

[English]

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Sir, I agree with my hon. friend. He was himself a Defence Minister. He knows our security situation. I hope his brief tenure in the Defence Ministry must have persuaded him to believe that India has the capacity to look after itself. It is not only that China is giving weapons to Pakistan which he has mentioned, there is a long list of it. If my friend wants it, I can read it but I would not take your time.

MR. SPEAKER : Having been the Defence Minister, he must be having this list.

(Interruptions)

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Sir, he is reading a statement which everybody knows it.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : The main point that I would like to respond is that India has the capacity to look after itself and I think, whether we call it in terms of 'Prithvi' or in terms of 'Agni', we are taking care of ourselves. I hope my hon. friend does not want me to spell out the details.

The second point that he has made is about deployment. Deployment is only in response to a situation. Having a weapon is one thing. If one has a gun, one does not load it all the time and carry it in the bazaar also. One responds to a situation.

So, we feel that at the moment, the situation is not such that such weapons need to be deployed. But we have it, we have exhibited it and we have the capacity to make it.

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA : Mr. Speaker Sir, we all know that China is helping Pakistan and supplying them nuclear weapons, the details of which have already

been given by Shri Mahajan. They are supplying them M-11, the technology, tanks, etc. Now recently, it is very disturbing to know that a new factory is being set up near Islamabad where the Chinese engineers are working. Technologists are there to help Pakistan, to sharpen their nuclear weapons. I would like to seek a clarification about it from the Government since the Government of India is aware of this fact.

Secondly, in the statement, it has been mentioned that the Indian Government has approached China on bilateral basis as well as on multilateral basis to express our concern in this regard.

Recently, only yesterday, I suppose Mr. Tang, the Vice-Foreign Minister of China was here. He had met the officials as well as he had called on you. I would like to know from the Government if any serious concern had been shown to them. What has been the result of the bilateral talks, multilateral talks and the talks which Mr. Tang had with you?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : As far as the talks - including yesterday's - with China on bilateral basis are concerned, our concern has been pointed out about the supply of arms and transfer of technology every time. That is a point which I am making. China has its routine reply, as you know. As a former Foreign Minister you know the type of reply you get. But the key issue is not that. The issue basically is our own strength and about that I want this House to be sure, particularly in this 50th year of Independence. I can assure this House that India has the capacity and the will to look after itself.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I have taken note of what the hon. Prime Minister has said about the country's capability as also the country's preparedness to meet any contingency. The clarification I seek falls within the ambit of this and refers particularly to chemical weapons as also to missile technology development. The hon. Prime Minister is surely aware that notwithstanding the capability of producing chemical weapons since about the late 50s, till date, till inspection, never has any military doctrine for the employment of chemical weapons ever been developed. The Military is in fact totally unaware of the fact that there are any chemical weapons. Now, therefore, for the Prime Minister to say, 'it does not matter, we are ready for any contingency', notwithstanding the signature on the Convention - similar is the case with missile technology - is beguiling of him. A casual reading of the history of the military affairs of the past fifty years would tell us that this kind of statement from high offices that we are ready for any contingency' has made India face any many kinds and all any variety of adverse contingencies. That hold even today the hon. Prime Minister talks of Prithvi deployment. It is a technical point and is not worthy of pursuing. But certainly his predecessor has said that Agni is merely a

technology tester, a technology developer. If it is a technology developer, how are you going to use the Agni in the absence firstly of a clear enough doctrine, a clear enough concept; secondly of sufficient military preparation, whether it is chemical weapons or it is missile or it is nuclear weapons.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Unfortunately my previous experience and that of hon. Member Jaswant Singh may be different. I had never been in the Army. So, his technical knowledge is definitely superior to mine, which I concede. But the point I am trying to make is, the Defence preparedness and a doctrine are two different things.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : How can there be preparedness without a doctrine?

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I am coming to your point. A doctrine of deployment of nuclear or chemical weapons or such weapons in today's context, particularly at the level of preparedness that we have, I hope he does not expect me to express that in so many words.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Not at all.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : Yes, you are welcome.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : I am grateful to the hon. Prime Minister for yielding.

It is not a question of enunciation. It is an elementary question of the military, Take the example of chemical weapons. It is no good for any Government to stand up and say, yes, we have chemical weapons, we have the capability', but the military does not know about it. Since late 50s till date when we have signed the Convention, the military has neither knowledge of it nor any doctrine for its use, nor any doctrine about how to prevent the consequences. There is no civil defence about the use of chemical weapons. Therefore, when the hon. Prime Minister says 'I am suggesting the doctrine to be made public', I am in fact suggesting exactly that.

If the military is unaware of the doctrine for the employment of these weapons, it is disingenuous of the hon. Prime Minister to say that he cannot declare the doctrine. These are weapons of mass destruction. The military's preparedness is going to be measured by the employment and the knowledge of the military in these fields. Therefore, for the hon. the Prime Minister to say, 'I have got a doctrine but I am not going to disclose it', I am sorry, this is not satisfactory.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I am sorry if I have upset my friend.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : You have not upset me.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I will try to meet his points. . .  
*(Interruptions)*

SHRI G.M. BANATWALLA : He has already rolled up his sleeves! He is coming with rolled up sleeves! . . .  
*(Interruptions)*

AN HON. MEMBER : After all, he is an Army man!

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : I said, the manufacturing of the chemical weapons did not start after I became the Prime Minister. This was there when my hon. friend was also a Minister. . .*(Interruptions)* This was there when many of us occupied positions here. That is one point.

I stand by the policy that successive Governments have followed. That policy was and continues to be that weapons of mass destruction need not be deployed at this stage of our defence preparedness. That is why, in our country, I think for good reasons, Governments including their own Government have not handed over weapons of this type to the Army. I stand by that because I do not think that it would be a good policy for India to go on doing it at a level where civil control is not complete, particularly on weapons of this type. I can understand his difficulties and concerns because I appreciate those concerns. I am not differing with him. But, at this stage, my perception is that that stage has not come and when it comes, it does.

For Instance, Prithvi has been deployed to an extent that Army exercises are going on; the Army knows how to use it. We have done it at a particular stage.

About Agni, a statement has been made. We have come to a stage when re-entry is possible; we have come to a stage when we are expanding its range. But that stage has not come when we should militarise it.

MR. SPEAKER : Let me give a chance to an hon. Member who has no background of the defence services, Shri George Fernandes.

*[Translation]*

SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES : Mr. Speaker, Sir, Prime Minister has repeatedly stated that we are capable of facing any situation. I would like to know from the Prime Minister that while Pakistan is getting weapons from China, whether his thinking is limited to this extent that Pakistan is the only purchaser of weapons from China and gets arms from China only? The intention of China towards India, is clear to us in many spheres. When he is answering this question today, the length of 11 military airports in Tibet are being increased. The new Sukhoi aircraft which they have purchased will be operated therefrom and for which destination they will use those aircraft from Tibet? Since

it is said that they can fly back those aircraft after reaching Rameswaram, so the viewpoint of China, is clear from this instance.

Recently in the first week of April, Chief Minister of one of our state got a invitation to attend a conference in China. He was asked to get the visa and 'simple visa' word was used in an English letter. That Chief Minister went to the Chinese Embassy. There he was told to come next day and when he went there he was told that he will not get a visa. . .*(Interruptions)* I am coming to the question. Because these things are the basis of that question. . .*(Interruptions)* Second day when he went there he was told that his invitation stands withdrawn. He asked as to how it is withdraw. Thereupon, he was told that visa is not necessary for him. He can go there. Because he was the Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh and China considers that state as part of its territory. In view of import of arms by Pakistan in the present situation, I would like to know as to whether these arms are essential for the defence of Pakistan. In his reply the hon. Prime Minister has mentioned that Pakistan is receiving more arms than they actually require. In this context, I would like to know whether this matter is not linked with the great design China has over us. It has been mentioned here time and again that we are ready to face the challenge. What measures have been taken to counter this challenge?

*[English]*

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL : My hon. friend, Shri George Fernandes has very often discussed this situation both in private and in public about India's relations with China, particularly with reference to the area that he has referred to. The main question is not what China's policy is, but it is the question of what India's policy is. India's policy is to try to preserve peace, if possible. But we are ready for the worst. That is what we are working for. We do not want to be offensive. We do not want to use aggressive language. But I can assure my hon. friend that ever since he was in the Government things have changed a lot. Therefore, I can assure him that all the Governments that have come in office have been conscious of this responsibility and we will discharge it, if ever, God forbid, the situation arises.

#### Training Institutes

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\*204. SHRI HARIN PATHAK:  
 SHRIMATI BHAWNABEN DEVRAJBHAI  
 CHIKHALIA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Vocational Training Institutes functioning in different parts of the country particularly in