

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1361
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2003
PAKISTAN S NUCLEAR CAPABILITY
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan within less than a week of test firing Hatf III missile, test fired another medium range nuclear capable missile Hatf-IV on October 8, 2003 with a range of over 700 kms;
- (b) If so, the response of the Union Government thereto; and
- (c) the manner in which the Government proposes to counter the same?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

- (a) Yes. Pakistan conducted three missile tests in October 2003. On October 3, 2003, it tested short-range Hatf-III (Ghaznavi missile, reported range of 290 kms) and on October 8 and 14, 2003 it tested Hatf-IV (Shaheen missile, reported range of around 700 kms).
- (b) & (c) Government continues to closely monitor all developments related to Pakistan's nuclear and missile programmes and remains fully committed to taking all necessary steps to effectively safeguard India's security and national interests.