

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1755

ANSWERED ON:03.08.2000

USE OF UAV BY PAKISTAN TO SPOT GAPS IN INDIAN DEFENCE

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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistani is reportedly using high altitude Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) to spot gaps in Indian army defences for infiltration of heavily armed mercenaries into J&K;
- (b) if so, whether during the last month various UAV sightings have been made by security forces in Palanwala, Sunderbani, Tangdhar, Gurez and Kel sectors along the Line of Control;
- (c) if so, whether the detection of UAVs by land based radars had invariably followed heavy shelling by Pakistani troops and under the cover of shelling a bid was made to push large groups of mercenaries across the LoC;
- (d) if so, the steps taken to counter the Pakistani attack; and
- (e) the extent to which India has been successful to counter the move?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a)to(c): There have been reports about sighting of flying objects and moving lights during nights in Siachen, Gurez, Kanzalwan, Tangdhar, Naushera sectors during the last two months. From the analysis of these reports, it has been concluded that the sightings at high altitudes are unlikely to be Unmanned Aerial Vehicles. However, no link of these sightings with shelling by Pak troops and pushing in mercenaries has been established.

(d)&(e): A constant watch is maintained on the situation both at the border as well as in the hinterland and all possible measures are taken to frustrate the designs of elements hostile to India.