

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1776
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2000
MISSILE CAPABILITY
ANANT GANGARAM GEETE

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has been amazingly tardy in implementing the system capable of countering Pakistani and Chinese missile capabilities as reported in the Pioneer dated July 10, 2000; and

(b) the status of India's missile/nuclear capability to meet any foreign threat?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): India's Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme is progressing as planned. Prithvi surface-to-surface missile system has already been inducted. Agni II, the longer range version of Agni has been successfully flight tested. Government closely monitors all developments related to missile capabilities and strategic modernization programmes in the region and beyond. Government remains fully committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard the nation's security in accordance with its own assessment of threats to our security.