

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1701

ANSWERED ON:04.08.2005

SELLING OF WAR PLANS

Athawale Shri Ramdas;Chakraborty Shri Swadesh;Jagannath Dr. M.;Kanodia Shri Mahesh Kumar;Mollah Shri Hannan;Ponnuswamy Shri E.;Singh Shri Uday;Solanki Shri Bhupendrasinh Prabhatsinh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian Brigadier sold 1965 war plans as reported in the 'Asian Age' dated May 31, 2005; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) & (b): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1701 FOR 4.8.2005

Subsequent to the publication of media reports regarding disclosures made by Shri Gauhar Ayub Khan, son of Ex Martial Law Administrator of Pakistan General Ayub Khan, that an Indian Army Brigadier sold the Indian Army's 1965 war plans to Pakistan for Rs. 20,000/-, an in-house investigation has been carried out which has highlighted the following:

. Any plan or strategy formulated in the period around 1958 would have held no worthwhile value or relevance at the time of the 1965 operations, especially since the Army's strategy and operational plans underwent major changes consequent to the Indo-China conflict of 1962.

. If Pakistan had access to the Indian operational plans, it would have achieved a major strategic victory on all fronts. Further, the enemy would not have been taken in by surprise when the Indian Army launched its counter offensive towards Lahore.

. As reported in the media, former Pakistan top brass are also not convinced about the claim.

The claims made by Mr Gauhar Ayub Khan could also be an attempt to sensationalise events, as part of a marketing strategy, for the sale of his forthcoming book, due for release in December 2005.