

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3373

ANSWERED ON:14.12.2006

PRITHVI MISSILE TEST

Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao;Yadav Shri Kailash Nath Singh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has conducted a successful test of intercepting Prithvi missile with a supersonic missile;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the total number of such tests conducted by DRDO during the last three years till date alongwith the outcome thereof;
- (d) the position earned by India amongst the other countries which have developed such indigenous supersonic missiles; and
- (e) the future plan of the Government for conducting more such tests?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Interceptor Missile (PAD) was successfully flight tested against a modified Prithvi 'target' missile on 27th November, 2006 from Integrated Test Range, Balasore. Modified Prithvi Missile, was launched as a 'target' from Launch Centre III. The Weapon System Radars picked up the 'target' and passed on the information to Missile Control Centre, which gave 'target' assignment to Launch Control Centre. 'Interceptor' missile lifted off when the 'target' was at Apogee, highest point in Space, and onboard guidance steered the 'interceptor' towards target. The PAD intercepted the 'target' successfully at an altitude of 50 km. All the test objectives have been met fully.

(c) This was a maiden flight trial for evaluating technologies.

(d) India is the 4th country after USA, Russia and Israel to have this capability.

(e) More tests are planned to prove the relevant technologies.