

**Title:** Regarding the Minister of Defence's support extended to the USA's policy of Air Missile Defence System.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI : Sir, through you, I draw the attention of the House and the Government to a very important matter because on 31<sup>st</sup> of this month, the House will adjourn. This is a matter concerning our own defence preparedness also. I read in a newspaper right on the eve of the Session that soon after the George Bush Administration was installed in the United States, they announced their policy of Air Missile Defence System. It is causing concern to all the developing nations for their own defence preparedness. It is causing concern to those who have built up their own defence system.

India is now facing a nuclear threat even from Pakistan. India is confronted with several hostile forces. I am proud of the Indian people and the Armed Forces. We have built up our own defence strength, satellite strength and everything.

At this juncture, the United States' policy for Air Missile Defence System is being supported, as reported in the newspaper, by our hon. Minister of Defence. I consider it detrimental to the interests of peace in this sub-continent as well as India and to our own defence preparedness. Therefore, I express my deep anguish and concern that the Government must come out to clear the confusion in the minds of the people and tell us as to what is the official stand of the Government *vis a vis* Air Missile Defence Strategy of the United States which is deliberately aimed at destroying all the satellite preparations and the projects of those nations that are making their own preparations to defend their countries. Take, for instance, India.

It is not an ordinary matter. I have, therefore, given the notice and even its copy to the Minister of Defence. It is not a political issue. The Government should, therefore, spell out categorically and clearly as to what is India's stand. Are we under pressure from the United States to compromise our stand? They should also make that point clear.

Are we going to suspend our preparations for launching the satellites? In spite of United States' efforts for their own system, are we competent enough to guard our territory and keep our satellite ventures intact? This is a very important issue *via a vis* India's and the United States' relations at the present moment. Therefore, it is in the fitness of things that the Government of India should spell out its stand and policy. It should take its party, the people and the Parliament into confidence.

**श्री सईदुज्जमा (मुजफ्फरनगर) :** उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं यू.टी.आई. के मामले में एक महत्वपूर्ण बात रखना चाहता हूँ। **â€**(ब्यवधान)

**उपाध्यक्ष महोदय:** यह मैटर अब जे.पी.सी. के पास है, इसलिए इसे यहाँ नहीं उठाया जा सकता है।

**श्री सईदुज्जमा :** यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण मामला है। **â€**(ब्यवधान)

**उपाध्यक्ष महोदय:** महत्वपूर्ण होगा, लेकिन इसे जे.पी.सी. को रैफर कर दिया है इसलिए इसे अभी यहाँ उठाया नहीं जा सकता।