

**War Like Preparations by Pakistan**

\*151. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR :  
SHRI JAIPAL SINGH  
KASHYAP :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistani army has dug a number of trenches on the border;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Pakistan has equipped its army and airforce considerably by purchasing sophisticated bombers and other arms etc. from the U. S. A. ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Pakistan is going to receive sophisticated reconnaissance submarines from U. S. A. ; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or being taken by the Government for the security of the country in the face of these developments ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) Government are aware that Pakistan has constructed defences along the Indo-Pak border.

(b) and (c) It is a fact that Pakistan is enlarging armaments far beyond its legitimate defence needs. These reportedly include tanks, guns Armoured Personnel Carriers, TOW missiles, attack helicopters F-16 aircraft, destroyers, Vulcan—Phalanx gun system, Harpoon missiles and communications and electronic warfare equipment.

(d) Government monitor all developments affecting the country's security and initiate appropriate measures to ensure full defence preparedness. It would not be desirable to disclose details.

**Per Capita Defence Expenditure**

\*152. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA :  
Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to lay a statement showing :

(a) the latest comparative figures showing the per capita defence expenditure for India as against Pakistan, Bangladesh, China, Sri Lanka and other neighbouring countries ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the per capita expenditure on defence in India is comparatively much less than that of China ; and

(c) if so, the steps contemplated by Government to match the defence preparedness in Pakistan, China and other neighbouring countries ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI R. VENKATARAMAN): (a) A statement showing the latest comparative figures relating to per capita Defence Expenditure for India as against Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and other neighbouring countries as published by the London based International Institute of Strategic Studies, is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) No figure showing the per capita expenditure on Defence by China is available for purposes of comparison.

(c) The requirements of Defence are constantly reviewed in the light of the security environment and funds are accordingly provided.

**STATEMENT**

**Per Capita Defence Expenditure of India in relation to that of a few other neighbouring countries**

Name of the country	Per Capita Defence Expenditure in US Dollars for 1982	Remarks
1	2	3
India	8	—
Indonesia	19	—
Malaysia	151	—
Pakistan	20	—
Phillippines	17	—

1	2	3
Singapore	355	—
Thailand	29	—
Iran	173	—
China	—	
Bangladesh	2	—
Burma	5	—
Sri Lanka	2.6	
Nepal	2	

**Newsitem Captioned "Raids Reveal I-T Nexus with Traders"**

\*153. SHRI R.P. DAS : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a newsitem regarding close link between a number of senior officers and trading concerns engaged in blackmarketing and smuggling operations as appeared in the Free Press Journal of 25 October, 1983 ;

(b) if so, the facts about nexus unearthed by Income-tax authorities and action initiated by Government, if any ; and

(c) if no action taken, the detailed reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAT-TABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) and (b) The Government is aware of news-item captioned "Raids Reveal I.T. Nexus with Traders" in Free Press Journal, Bombay of 25th October, 1983. The preliminary scrutiny of the seized documents has so far not established any prima-facie case of nexus between the officials and trading concerns searched and it would be premature to conclude anything unless the investigations are completed.

Official Chinese Defence Expenditure figure (released in 1981 for the first time) of 11.87 on dollars was 20.7 per cent of planned Government expenditure. For 1982, the figure of 17.870 Yuan (15.72 per cent of Government expenditure) was reported. These figures are not comparable to Western Defence Estimates since the official Chinese budget figure excludes a number of items normally included in the Defence Budget in Western countries.

(c) Does not arise.

**Passing of Excise Duty Relief to Consumers**

\*154. SHRI R. PRABHU : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have ensured that the excise duty relief announced recently have been passed on to the consumers of those items ;

(b) the articles for which duty relief has not been passed on to the consumer ; and

(c) steps Government propose to take so that this duty relief are passed on to the consumer by the industry and trade ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAT-TABHI RAMA RAO) : (a) The Government have taken steps to ensure that excise duty relief, as announced from the 1st October, 1983 in respect of buses and trucks (commercial vehicles), bus-truck tyres, refrigerators, electric batteries, etc., is passed on to the consumers of these items. Following the discussions which the concerned administrative ministry had with the manufacturers of these items, the latter have agreed to pass on the excise duty relief to the consumers. The reports received so far also indicate that the prices of these items have, by and large, been reduced,