

Rocket firing by Pak Troops

401. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news-item captioned "Pak troops fires 6 rockets into India" as reported in the Statesman dated 4th July, 1994;

(b) whether the Pakistani troops have fired rockets into Indian side;

(c) if so, the loss of life and property as a result thereof; and

(d) the precautionary steps Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) Pakistani troops have been resorting to firing of rockets from across the Line of Control (LC) in the recent past. On 2nd July, 1994 Pakistani troops had fired two rockets each in Naushahra and Krishnaghathi Sectors.

(c) There was no loss to life and property due to the aforesaid rocket firings.

(d) Adequate measures are being taken by the Security Forces on ground to meet such situations.

Upgradation of MIGs

402. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a newsitem captioned "Upgraded MIGs to strengthen IAF" as reported in the Statesman dated 27th June, 1994;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to up grade the ageing MIG fighters;

(c) whether Government proposed to take the help of foreign countries in upgrading the MIG fighters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d) The Government propose to upgrade the MIG-21 BIS air-

craft held in the inventory of the IAF. The upgradation package would consist of integration of indigenous, Russian and western weapons/avionics. Design and development phase of the upgradation is planned to be undertaken in Russia. Productionisation of the upgraded version will be done by HAL.

Upgradation of coast guard to combat Narco-terrorism

403. SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether government propose to upgrade coast guard to combat the increasing threat of narco-terrorism;

(b) if so, the steps to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether this upgradation will also help combat the increasing smuggling activities in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not upgrading the coast guard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (d) The Coast Guard assists the enforcement agencies in anti-smuggling operations. The Coast Guard ships are adequately equipped with modern equipments which are continuously updated. As per the Coast Guard Development Plan 1992-97, a number of ships/boats and aircrafts are planned for induction to enhance their capability.

Supply of ammunition from Ukraine and Russia

404. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether some agreement has been signed among India, Ukraine and Russia for supply of some spares and critically required ammunition to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the supplies under this agreement will commence from some fixed period;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Government propose to develop some indigenous production source of such ammunition to achieve self-reliance; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

(e) and (f) The endeavour of the Government of India is to promote enhancement of our defence production capabilities, to facilitate indigenisation, consistent with the requirements of the Armed Forces.

Purchase of arms

405. SHRI K. M. KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to certain reports that appeared in the middle of June indicating that India and Pakistan spent dollar 16 billion on purchases of Arms from International Market between 1988 to 1992;

(b) if so, the facts of these reports;

(c) whether the amount spent on purchases of Arms is very less when compared to Pakistan having less area and population than India;

(d) whether any such purchases have also been made in 1993;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether Government propose to make such purchases during 1994; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) to (c) The Government has been the Reports which have indicated

that India and Pakistan together accounted for more than 18 per cent of world's Arms imports. Government do not have figures of the value of Defence imports by Pakistan. However, the figures of Arms imports by India given in the said reports are exaggerated.

(d) to (g) It will not be in national security interest to divulge details of acquisitions/purchases made or proposed to be made for our Armed Forces.

Intelligence wing for Coast Guards

406. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Coast Guard, responsible for guarding over 7,000 kms of coastline does not maintain an independent intelligence wing of its own;

(b) if so, whether in view of increasing smuggling activity across the Indian coasts, especially the large quantities of RDX-smuggling which culminated in series of blasts in Bombay and elsewhere in the country last year, Government propose to raise an independent Intelligence Wing of the Coast Guard; and

(c) what other steps are being taken to make coast guard impenetrable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) to (c) The Coast Guard alongwith Navy are responsible for guarding the entire coast-line of India. There is no proposal for raising an independent Intelligence Wing of the Coast Guard. However, the Coast Guard coordinates its activities with Intelligence Bureau, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence and Naval Intelligence from which it receives intelligence inputs, and also relies on information given by fishermen for apprehending foreign trawlers. A number of ships/boats and aircraft are planned for induction to enhance their capability, as per the Coast Guard Development Plan 1992-97.