

INSTALLATION OF MISSILES BY CHINA AT NATHU LA

1203. SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV: SHRI INDER SINGH .

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Sikkim has drawn the attention of the Government of India to the effect that China has installed short range missiles at Nathu La, the use of which can endanger the entire State;

(b) whether it is also a fact that China has also constructed an underground defence complex;

(c) whether the Government of Sikkim have requested the Government of India to take suitable steps in this connection ; and

(d) if so, the counter measures taken by the Government of India ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) and (b) Government are aware of the construction of underground bunkers and store houses on the Chinese side of the border with Sikkim. Therefore, it is not necessary for Govt. of Sikkim drawing our attention.

(c) and (d) Necessary steps to safeguard our borders have been taken.

AMERICAN PEACE PROPOSALS FOR WEST ASIA

1204. SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV: SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state ;

(a) whether it is a fact that the U.A.R. has given its qualified acceptance to the American peace proposals for West Asia ;

(b) if so, the stipulations made by the U.A.R. ; and

(c) the reaction of the Government of India thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The Government of UAR has accepted, without qualifications, the new U.S. proposals requiring a 90-days cease-fire and the reactiva-tion of the efforts of Ambassador Jarring to bring about a just and lasting peace in the region in terms of the U.N. Security Council Resolution of November 22, 1967.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government of India welcomes the recent steps taken for the relaxation of tension in West Asia. The Government believes that the implementation, in full, of the U.N. Security Council Resolution of 22nd November, 1967, is essential for the establishment of a just and lasting peace in West Asia.

LAUNCHING OF ICBM BY C"HINA

1205. SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Communist China's intercontinental ballistic missile is now ready to be test-fired;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a number of nuclear scientists have vehemently expressed themselves in favour of India going nuclear ; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to have second thoughts on sing nuclear potential for defence purposes ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM) : (a) Government are aware that China is likely to test her first inter-continental ballistic missile in the near future.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) There is no change in the Government's policy on the use of nuclear weapons which has been explained in the House on a number of occasions, including in the last Session.

PUNJAB'S REQUEST TO COMMISSION IDLE THERMAL PLANT IN M.P.

1206. SHRI INDER SINGH : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Punjab have sent an urgent request to the Central Government to commission urgently the idle