

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:163
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2000
MODERNISATION OF NAVY
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;JAI PRAKASH

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Pakistan has got an edge over India in respect of modern submarines which has put pressure on India to acquire modern submarines to meet the challenge;
- (b) if so, whether the Indian Navy has been demanding for expansion and modernisation of its fleet for a long time; and
- (c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in this direction?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (c) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 163 FOR 3.8.2000.

Pakistan is reported to have purchased three Agosta 90B submarines, of which one submarine has already joined the Pakistan Navy and the remaining two are expected to join in near future.

2. The expansion and modernisation of the Indian Naval fleet is an ongoing process, dictated primarily by the threat perceptions and prevailing external strategic/security environment, as also the emerging technologies. The Government have already sanctioned a number of projects for construction of naval ships and submarines and taken other measures so as to adequately equip the Navy to meet any challenge to the security of the nation.