

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1070
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2006
SUPPLY OF ANTI SHIP MISSILE TO PAK
Yadav Shri Mitrasen

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the American Government has proposed to supply Anti-Ship Missile "Harpoon" to Pakistan;
- (b) If so, the number of such missiles likely to be given to Pakistan;
- (c) The features of these Harpoon Missiles;
- (d) Whether the said supply is likely to pose a threat to the strategic balance in region; and
- (e) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to deal with this situation?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a)-(b) Yes Sir. The US Defence Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA) has notified the US Congress of a possible sale to Pakistan of Harpoon Block II Anti Ship Missiles as well as associated equipment and services. Pakistan has requested for sale of 50 UGM-84L (submarine-launched), 50 RGM-84L (surface-launched), and 30 AGM-84L (air-launched) Block II Harpoon missiles, 5 Encapsulated Harpoon Command Launch Systems, and related support equipment and services.

(c) The Harpoon is an all weather, over-the-horizon, anti-ship missile system, with a low-level, sea-skimming cruise trajectory and active radar guidance. The missile has a range in excess of 67 nautical miles and a 500-pound blast warhead.

(d) In its Congressional notification, US DSCA has stated that the proposal sale of this equipment will not affect the basic military balance in the region. Nevertheless, Government is concerned at Pakistan acquiring advanced weaponry that might be used against India.

(e) The Government has engaged and will continue to engage US Government to limit sale of advanced military technology to Pakistan which could be used against India. Government would also continue to modernize and equip Indian armed forces to deal with all threats to national security.