

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:162
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2006
TESTING OF MISSILES BY IRAN
Barman Shri Ranen;Kuppusami Shri C.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has assessed the Persian Gulf security scenario consequent upon Iran testing new nuclear missiles;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the global oil supplies in future are likely to be affected in the region;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the reaction of the international community and N-5 countries in this regard; and
- (f) the strategy planned to maintain a balance in the region;

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a)–(f) Government carefully monitors both long term trends and short term developments in the security scenario in India's extended neighbourhood, including reactions of extra-regional powers. Confrontation and de-stabilisation in the region is not in India's interest. India maintains close contact with countries in the region and beyond with regard to the ongoing developments and is committed to taking all necessary steps to protect national security based on a realistic assessment of the security situation.