

ning for trade in respect of Eastern Europe and that is what they have been doing.

The hon. Member is certainly right; I would like to see these organisations grow. They are growing and we will encourage them to do very much better from the view point of exports.

He asked a specific question about the capability which exists in the public sector on account of investments and the very high skills of our scientists and technologists. But basically what this amounted to is that a very large part of their time and investments which have been made in these concerns are being utilised for fulfilling our own internal requirements which means we can meet these requirements without having to import.

On the other hand certainly it is true that one can expand production capacity, put more investments in it and therefore lead to exports. I would like to remind the hon. Member that there was a time when the total TV expansion was taking place in this country. Everyday you could see on the television a new station opening. At that time originally, the hon. Member would recall, the idea was that all of this should be done by importing. I can certainly recall being Chairman of BEL at that time stating that BEL would be able to do it. All those television transmission systems were manufactured in India out of our own designs performing perfect. The first and foremost element has been to meet our needs in the country: not to import; to be self-reliant. But what the hon. Member has said is correct, in the sense that with this capability, with the appropriate type of investment, enhancing the production base we should be able to export. That certainly will be taken note of.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question.

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: Sir, I was the first one to raise my hand.

MR. SPEAKER: Next question. Shri Madhavrao Scindia.

SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU: If you don't allow me to ask a question, what is the point in my attending the House?

11.43 hrs.

(Shri M.M. Pallam Raju then left the House)

New Acquisition by Pak Navy

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*640. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:
SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that by its new acquisitions, Pakistan's Navy has acquired critical minimum surface and air capabilities to inflict conspicuous and possibly unacceptable damage to Indian Naval order of battle; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken or propose to take to meet this threat to Indian Navy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. RAJA RAMANNA): (a) The Government have seen reports to the effect that the Pakistan Navy has been making certain acquisitions to enhance its operational capabilities.

(b) The Government keep a close watch on all developments that have a bearing on the country's security and take adequate measures to maintain full defence preparedness at all times.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Just a couple of days ago the hon. Prime Minister has stated in the Press that in view of the situation in the sub-continent, the Defence outlay requires to be stepped up even further. As the hon. Minister has just clarified, the degree of sophistication of the Pakistan Navy has acquired a new level in the recent past. Keeping this in mind it is very important that the Indian Navy also be given a large

proportion of the total Defence outlay. According to expert opinion at least 25% of the outlay should be given to the Indian Navy if we expect it to be prepared to meet the challenges and carry out the tasks that are expected of it. But instead of 25%, only I think about 12% is being allocated to the Indian Navy.

I would like to know from the hon. Prime Minister whether the Defence Ministry's thinking is in line with the new perceptions that have emerged because of the latest situation and if so is there going to be a hike in the allocation to the Navy both in quantum and as a proportion of the total Defence outlay. If so, to what extent?

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: Sir, in answering this question, I would like to...

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, I have quoted the hon. Prime Minister. I think this is an important enough question for the hon. Prime Minister to answer. My request would be that the Prime Minister should answer this question. (*Interruptions*)

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: I know that it is an important question and I am sure that the Prime Minister will supplement my answer to satisfy the Member. (*Interruptions*) He will supplement me also, if necessary.

Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Member a little bit of the history of the situation. In 1971 the Pakistan Navy gave a poor showing in the war we had with them. They also raised a bogie that the Indians were developing a blue water navy. And this was the reason why the Pak should build up their Navy very fast. Of course, due to lack of resources in that country, the expansion of the Navy was essentially of a defensive nature. Subsequently, as a result of the aid that they have been getting from America from 1988 onwards, they have been introducing some very special items of equipment, which I shall detail for the information of the hon. Member. They are: 8 Brooke/Garcia Class Frigates; Submarine Launched Harpoon Missiles; 3P-3C Orion Long Range

Maritime Aircraft with anti-ship Harpoon Missiles; Atlantique Long Range Maritime Aircraft with anti-ship Missiles; advanced sonars; torpedoes and other weapon systems, Leander Class Frigates and a fleet of tankers.

One could give a more detailed list. But I just gave a few examples of the developments of the Pakistan Navy in recent times. How do we respond to this? They know that we have two aircraft carriers and various types of missiles. And so much concern has been shown with respect to the growth of the Indian Navy. Now since Pakistan has developed its navy greatly, it may be difficult to break any blockade by force. She may try to break through. We have to take all these into consideration.

Now, the hon. Member's supplementary question is, "are we going to increase the Budget for the Navy?" The 12 per cent that he referred to, has come about after detailed thinking of what can be done with respect to immediate needs and with respect to subsequent needs. I just have to answer this question. The Pakistan Navy, of course, has doubled its size since then and we have to meet our requirements. I would not like to go into too many details of what we are doing to meet this requirement. But, take the Harpoon Missiles. This, of course, posed a great danger.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, my question is about the allocation of money. (*Interruptions*)

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): Sir, I share the concern of the hon. Member. While all this modernisation was being done by Pakistan, we were freezing up our Defence Budget, here in the past years. We are determined to make up this distortion that was created during the last few years. I think it was woolly headed thinking about our security and the response that we ought to have made, that our Defence Budgets were virtually frozen and if we take the foreign exchange variation

and also inflation in real terms, the Defence Budget was curtailed. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sir, I asked about money... The Defence Budget was decreased when you were the Finance Minister. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: The Defence Budget was increased when I was the Finance Minister. You go and have a look at that. When I was not there, it was curtailed. (*Interruptions*) No, I was out. Then, it was decreased.

So, we have to make up for that. When the overall allocation increases, Navy also will have its increased share.

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: My question has not yet been answered. (*Interruptions*) I seek your protection.

The hon. Prime Minister has said that the Navy will also get a higher budget. But is the proportion of the budget allocated to the Navy proposed to be raised in line with the thinking of the expert opinion? That is what I want to know.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: In this respect, we are taking a new integrated approach of all the three Services. Our security response has to be an integrated response. It cannot be just the sum-total of various individual responses of the three Services.

What we have decided is to assess the long-term and short-term security threat to formulate our response to them and in the formulation of response to have a weapon acquisition policy, which will be integrated to our integrated response because it is not that Army alone goes into conflict or the Navy alone goes into conflict. All go together. They will have to follow the contours of the response that we formulate.

When we do this, then, I think, we will have a holistic view of allocation of funds which will be rational rather than just higgling

in bargaining methods—all right this much is demand, this much is available and you settle on this—on a mechanical proportion that we have today between the three services. Once the Defence budget is there, almost there is a certain way of allocation. I think, we have to get out of these methods and take a more integrated view. That way, we are going to do it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Sophistication of the Navy has gone up. That is why the proportion is being altered. Anyway, I have been a victim of the confused thesis which the Prime Minister inflicts on his party. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH: I have no remedy for confused understanding. (*Interruptions*) It is a clear thing. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: The hon. Prime Minister just mentioned that the Defence budget has been greatly increased this year. And he tried to point out that this was the default of the earlier Government. But, Sir, the Defence budget is normally kept in view and allocated keeping in mind the prevailing situation existing in the sub-continent. It was the great success of the earlier Government that no neighbouring country dared even to threaten this country or look at it. (*Interruptions*) That is why we could greatly fulfil the requirements of the Seventh Plan and the requirements of development, especially for the economically depressed sections of the society. So, this is a plus point for the earlier Government.

I want to go on to my second question. As the hon. Minister just told us, a number of sophisticated items have either been imported or are in the pipeline for the Pakistan Navy from various countries. They are not only from the United States but also from France, China and various other countries. That is why the level of sophistication is going up.

I would like to know from the hon. Prime Minister whether they have any further infor-

mation on any negotiations which are, at present, going on between Pakistan and other supplier nations or potential supplier nations for even further supplies of sophisticated arms and naval equipment. And if so, what are these?

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:

This is precisely what I said about the first portion that this was only a confused thinking and a very short term view of the previous Government. This temporary peace or whatever initiatives that we are talking of, when all these build-ups were going on, the Navy tripled itself. The Air Force increased its strength by two and a half times and the Army doubled itself. When talks regarding sophisticated weapons were going on, they were saying that everything was fine and they should cut short the funds. I think great harm has been done by the previous Government to the security. When we came to power, we had to bring supplementary demands for the salary of the Army. Even the salary for the month of January this year, was not provided. And I stand by my view that harm to the security was done by the previous Government by not actually perceiving what was going on. With all these arguments in their mind, the previous Government had a confused thinking. We are very clear in our mind about the security of our country... (*Interruptions*)... My shortest period-record period for any Defence Minister—was two and a half months. You are aware as to what had happened. Reports from various sources have appeared. Perhaps, the Minister of State will be able to give further details in this regard.

DR. RAJA RAMANNA: If I have to follow up the Prime Minister's statement, which was on what had happened in the past, as I mentioned earlier, Pakistan, of course, has acquired a lot of sophisticated equipments from various countries, as has been mentioned. But I would like to point out that on every acquisition, we have weighed as to in what way we can reply. However, even if we do this exercise, it is not so much an item-by-item matching capability that gives superiority to an armed force over its adversaries. But it has its overall potential. If we

want to buy Harpoon missiles, we actually see as to how it can be dealt with. There are many ways of dealing with it. We do not have Harpoon missiles. But at the same time, it is not simply the Harpoon missiles that limits the capabilities of this country but the overall strength in various ways has to be taken into account in this matter.

SHRI YADVENDRA DATT: Sir, the hon. Minister has just informed us that Pakistan Navy has got tankers. Am I right?... (*Interruptions*)... He has informed us that they have got sophisticated tankers. What does that pre-suppose? Pakistan is building its Navy on the principle of task force which can strike anywhere at any time. Secondly, they are also developing their Navy by having submarines which can be re-fuelled to attack our force. I do not want any answer for this point as I know that the answer is not so clear to be given. But I request the Prime Minister to keep in his mind all these things and expand out defence allotment as far as possible as security is the prime concern of this country. I can always say that security is not got cheaply. Therefore, I request him to keep this in view and develop our Navy on a task force basis so that our submarines will also be fuelled to cover a long range. For the security and integrity of the country, any amount that is necessary, we should provide for that.

SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH:
We will do that.

SHRIMATI UMA GAJAPATHI RAJU: Sir, every Member in the Parliament is concerned about the acquisition of arms by Pakistan. We are honoured that we have the Prime Minister here today in the House to answer the question. Every time there is a vacillating Government in the Centre, Benazir Bhutto is belligerent and she talks of war.

Recently, there was a defence investiture ceremony held in Delhi and there was such a poor attendance from the Government in this regard. If the Prime Minister says that he is very much concerned about the Services, don't you think that it is necessary that from the Government there is a pat on back necessary for the Services so that they may be able to fight forces like Pakistan?
