

States concerned on a regular basis. Mechanisms for sharing of intelligence and operational coordination among the agencies and with the States have also been put in place. Action has also been taken to strengthen and augment the intelligence machinery, and further steps are underway to fill the vacancies in the intelligence organizations expeditiously and to provide them with advanced technical equipment. In addition, the structure and arrangements for intelligence gathering and sharing are being reviewed with the aim of filling up any gaps and making them more effective and result oriented.

As regards the recent terrorist attacks in Mumbai, intelligence regarding the possibility of infiltration by a suspected LeT vessel through the sea route has been shared with the Coast Guard and the Navy. The coordinates of the vessel placed it well within the territorial waters of Pakistan. Efforts were made by both of these organizations, including deploying vessels and air craft in the zone, but in the absence of any further specific inputs or information, the two organizations concluded that no further action could be taken on the basis of available information. According to information gathered during the course of the investigations so far, the terrorists hijacked an Indian fishing vessel, M.V. Kuber, and after abandoning it a few miles off the Indian coast, landed in Mumbai in an inflated rubber dinghy.

Crash of MiG fighters

*240. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some MiG fighters of the Indian Air Force have crashed in the past six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of casualties occurred due to crash of MiG fighters of IAF and compensation paid by Government;

(d) whether the factors responsible for crash of MiG fighters have been ascertained; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to check such rising trend of MiG fighter crashes?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): A total number of 5 MiG aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) have crashed in the last six months. There was no causality of service personnel or civilian in these accidents.

The major causes for crash of MiG fighters are Human Error, Technical Defect and Bird Hit.

Each aircraft accident in the IAF is investigated through a Court of Inquiry and remedial measures are undertaken accordingly to check their recurrence in future. Besides, a continuous and multi-faceted effort is always underway in the Indian Air Force to enhance and upgrade flight

safety. Measures to enhance the quality of training to improve the skill levels, ability to exercise sound judgment and situational awareness of pilots are being pursued. Constant interaction with Original Equipment Manufactures (OMEs), both indigenous and foreign, is also maintained to overcome the technical defects of aircraft. In addition, anti-bird measures are also undertaken.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Limiting concessions to the developing countries in WTO draft

†1705. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that developed countries have proposed in the WTO draft to limit the concessions of the developing countries;

(b) whether it is also a fact that if proposal is implemented, the protection to special product sectors would be in danger;

(c) if so, the details of the draft; and

(d) the details of the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) to (c) In the negotiations at the World Trade Organisation (WTO), the developed countries have been demanding market access into developing countries by seeking to limit the special and differential treatment being granted to the latter. On the other hand, the developing countries have been resisting any attempts to limit the concessions available to them so as to preserve the development dimension of the Doha Round. Based on these negotiations, the Chairman of the Agriculture negotiating group in the revised draft modalities of 6 December, 2008 has proposed that 12% of total agriculture tariff lines could be designated as Special Products (SPs) taking an average tariff cut of 11%. Out of these 12% lines designated as SPs; 5% of total tariff lines, will not take any cuts.

(d) The government has been negotiating for self-designation of an appropriate number of Special Products (SPs) to take care of India's food security, livelihood security, and rural development needs. The government has also been working closely with the G-33 coalition of developing countries in order to achieve the most favourable outcome possible.

FDI by PIOs in aviation and print media

1706. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to integrate foreign direct investment (FDI) regulations to bring them at par with those of mature economies;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.