

- (a) whether it is a fact that ex-servicemen with service upto 15 years are not getting pension while Members of Parliament with five years of service are getting pension;
- (b) the reason for denying pension to the ex-servicemen with less than 15 years of service;
- (c) whether Government has received any representation in this regard; and
- (d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) and (b) The Ex-Servicemen with service less than 15 years are not entitled to pension as it is a mandatory requirement for a Personnel Below Officer Rank to render 15 years qualifying service to earn pension.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) As minimum qualifying service is an essential criterion for pension in the Government, it has not been found feasible to accept the demand.

Defence Deal with USA

†1218. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Indian Government has signed the biggest ever defence deal with USA;
- (b) if so, the types of defence material to be procured by India from USA under said deal and the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by when supply of aircraft will be made to forces under the said deal?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) A contract for procurement of maritime reconnaissance aircraft was signed with M/s Boeing, USA on 1.1.2009. The contract provides for procurement of the aircraft along with associated spares, system support, training and documentation. The time frame for induction of the aircraft is from 2013 to 2015.

Offset clause in Public Private Partnership in Defence Industry

1219. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) how effective has Government been in enforcing the offset clause, in Public Private Partnership in Defence Industry since its introduction;
- (b) how much money has been brought in because of this clause; and
- (c) which are the industries that have been set up because of the money brought in?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) to (c) Ministry of Defence has been including offset clause in capital acquisitions according to the guidelines laid down as per Defence Procurement Procedure.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Offset contracts of more than Rs.7500 Crores have been signed till date. Contracts between foreign suppliers and Indian defence companies are resulting in setting up of, *inter-alia*, manufacturing, design, testing, service centers in the Indian defence industries.

Structural Fault in MIG-29 Fighter Planes

†1220. SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Russia, has pointed out structural faults in MIG-29 aircrafts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is formulating any action plan to decommission MIG-29 aircrafts from its airfleet;
- (d) if so, the time period for decommissioning alongwith details thereof;
- (e) if not, the reasons for keeping these aircrafts in the air fleet despite detection of structural faults in them;
- (f) whether it is also a fact that Government has made a new deal for purchase of these aircrafts; and
- (g) if so, the steps Government proposes to take in the light of these faults?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There was a MIG-29 accident in Russia in December 2008. RAC-MiG has intimated that corrosion on the Fin Root Ribs has been identified as the cause of crack development.

(c) to (e) There is no plan to decommission MIG-29 aircraft. The repair scheme and preventive measures are in place and IAF has not encountered major problems concerning the issue.

(f) and (g) IAF has not entered into a new deal for procurement of MiG-29 aircraft.

Reduction in Deployment of Forces in J&K

1221. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether threat from terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir is real;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) is there a move to reduce deployment forces; and
- (d) the effect and consequence thereof?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.