

Revival of Hindustan shipyard limited

4343. SHRI K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam is one of the oldest and the largest public sector shipyards in the country;

(b) if so, whether its accumulated losses are to the tune of Rs.856.23 crores and negative net worth of Rs.706.82 crores, which are a major concern;

(c) if so, whether Government propose to revive the shipyard; and

(d) if so, the details of the package?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL) as on 31.3.2009 has accumulated losses of Rs.987.43 crores and the negative net worth of Rs.685.44 crores.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Defence is processing a proposal for financial restructuring of HSL in consultation with the Shipyard.

Shortage of officers in army

4344. SHRI SHADI LAL BATRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total sanctioned strength of officers in the Armed forces;

(b) the present strength of officers in the Army;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are about 11,000 posts of officers lying vacant in the Army;

(d) whether Government proposes to open new Officers Training Academy (OTA) at Gaya in Bihar and one in Chennai;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) by when these OTAs will be set up and made functional; and

(g) the other major long term steps taken/being taken by Government to address the shortage of officers in the army?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (g) The sanctioned strength of officers is 46,614 in Army, 9,293 in Navy and 12,212 in Air Force. The present strength of officers in Army is 35,158 and around 11,500 posts are vacant.