

[15 December, 2004]

RAJYA SABHA

concrete steps to be taken for more participation by the private sector in defence production;

(b) if so, whether the said group had submitted its report; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) Government has constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Vijay L. Kelkar, Ex-adviser to Finance Minister, to examine and make recommendations to ensure effective participation of private sector in Defence Production.

(b) No, sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Poor Response of Private Investors in Defence Sector

1329. SHRI BALAVANT *Alias* BALAPTE:

SHRI S.U. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to open defence sector for private sector has got a poor response;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to attract the private investors in defence sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) After opening Defence Production for private sector participation in May 2001, 42 applications have been received from private companies for manufacture of various types of defence equipment. Against these, the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP), in consultation with the Ministry of Defence, has so far issued 18

letters of Intent/Industrial Licence for the manufacture of various types of Defence equipment.

(c) Government has constituted a committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Vijay L. Kelkar. ex-adviser to Finance Minister, to examine and make recommendations to ensure effective participation of private sector in Defence Production.

Expert Committee to Probe Frequent Crashes of IAF Fighters

1330. SHRI DATTAMEGHE:

SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA:

SHRI K.B. KRISHNAMURTHY:

SHRI M.A.M. RAMASWAMY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an expert committee has been constituted to investigate the high number of IAF aircraft crashes;

(b) if so, the composition and terms of reference thereof;

(c) when the said expert committee is likely to submit its report;

(d) whether earlier also such committees were constituted;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether recommendations of these committees were implemented; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) to (g) A Committee On Fighter Aircraft Accidents (COFAA) was set up in February 1997 by the Government under the Chairmanship of Scientific Advisor to Raksha Mantri to identify the causes for the aircraft accidents