

streams at Km 5.76 on approach road to South Portal of Rohtang Tunnel, depositing debris on the construction site of the snow gallery. At the time of the happening, 130 of contractor's workers were deployed at the site. Border Roads Organisation, the contractor and the district administration took prompt action and saved the lives of 122 persons. 21 people were shifted to Manali Hospital immediately for their treatment. Due to alertness shown by various agencies the lives of many workers were saved.

(c) and (d) As per Contract Agreement, the contractor is responsible to pay compensation to next of kin of deceased under Workmen Compensation Act 1923. All workers deployed at site have been insured by the contractor. As immediate relief, Rs.40,000/- have been paid by the contractor to the kin of each of the deceased. All injured workers have been provided medical treatment and all medical expenses have been borne by the contractor.

#### **Effect of MNC's undertaking port related activities**

3760. MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is allowing foreign MNCs to undertake port related activities;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether this decision may expose defence secrets to foreign countries; and
- (d) if so, the reasons for permitting MNCs to take over port projects?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) The guidelines for Private Sector Participation in port sector of 1996, permits Indian Private Sector firms to participate in PPP Projects. These guidelines also permit 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) by foreign investor in Port Sector.

(c) and (d) Naval security clearance for Port related activities of MNCs are accorded on case to case basis as per the guidelines of Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Home Affairs with due consideration to national security issues.

#### **Delay in purchase of artillery guns**

3761. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the much delayed purchase of crucial artillery guns which will replace the existing 20 years old Bofors guns in the Indian Army has been stalled again;
- (b) whether it is a fact that it is the fifth time since 2002 that the process has hit a road block due to one reason or the other seriously impinging upon the army's capability to fire at the enemy and;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and actions taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) No, Sir. Replacement of the Bofors guns is not being envisaged.

(b) and (c) The process for procurement of 155mm/52 calibre Towed guns is underway in accordance with the Defence Procurement Procedure.

#### **Steps to curtail import of Defence hardware and software**

3762. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps being taken to curtail present 70 per cent import of Defence hardware and software ;

(b) what were the funds spent on procurement of military requirements separately from foreign and indigenous companies during 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009; and

(c) whether full budgetary allocations for this purpose of modernization and upgradation of sophisticated defence were utilized or portion of the same was left unspent during 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) With a view to achieving greater self-reliance in Defence production, Government has announced Defence Production Policy in January, 2011. The 'Make' procedure was promulgated in 2006 to encourage indigenous development. Besides, the Government has included a new categorization 'Buy and Make (Indian)' in the Defence Procurement Procedure in November, 2009 to encourage indigenous production in the country.

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **Identification of companies for arms procurement**

3763. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some prospective global armaments giants were identified during February, 2011 out of participants of 380 foreign and 295 Indian companies for procuring military hardware and software increasing requirements for building India's defence arsenal;

(b) if so, what is the break-up of such identified foreign and Indian companies, and their estimated quantum of funds thereof for imports and domestic procurement; and

(c) whether supply of spare-parts and transfer of technology from foreign companies for a minimum period of ten years be made a mandatory clause of such contractual obligations backed by substantial bank guarantees?