Purchase of MIG aircrafts

2825. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a)   how many MIG planes were purchased and the period of their purchase and the broad terms of procurement agreement;

(b)   whether transfer of technology and training of IAF pilot were built-in clauses in the agreement;

(c)   the number of such MIG planes having been crashed till 31st of December;

(d)   the details of casualties in all these accidents, both of the IAF pilots and the civilian population; and

(e)   whether these accidents occurred due to technical deficiencies or human error?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : (a) Sir, a total of 872 MiG aircraft of various types were purchased from 1966-1980. The MiG series aircraft were inducted starting from MiG-21 in 1960s/1970s to MiG-29 in 1980s. These aircraft were purchased as per rules/procedures of that period. At present the procurement of capital equipment is carried out as per Defence Procurement Procedure.

(b)   The training of initial batches of pilots for MiG series aircraft was carried out in erstwhile USSR, followed by training for the rest of the pilots in India. The procurement cases involving Russian origin MiG-21 Bis & MiG-27 aircraft involved Transfer of Technology (ToT) and license production by HAL.

(c)   482 MiG aircraft accidents took place since Financial Year (F.Y) 1971-72 to F.Y 2012-13 (till 19th April 2012).

(d) and (e) A total of 171 pilots, 39 civilians, 8 service personnels and 1 aircrew lost their lives in these accidents. The causes of accidents were both human error and technical defects.

Conservation of world heritage monuments

†2826. SHRI PRABHAT JHA : Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a)   whether it is a fact that number of world heritage monuments of national importance under the conservation of Archaeological Survey of India, are in a sorry state due to lack of conservation and preservation;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.