

- (c) the objectives of such helicopters?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : (a) Sir, the delivery of the helicopters is scheduled to commence from November, 2012.

(b) and (c) The contract for procurement of AW-101 helicopters was signed with M/s Agusta Westland on 8th February, 2010 at a cost of Euro 556,262,026/-. These helicopters would replace the ageing Mi-8 helicopters of the Air Headquarters. Communication Squadron that provides communication services to WIPs/VIPs including visiting Heads of States/Governments.

#### **Testing of new missile**

3604. SHRIMATI T. RATNABAI : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is all set to test new missile;  
(b) if so, the details thereof in the Twelfth Plan period; and  
(c) the objectives thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : (a) to (c) Information cannot be divulged in the interest of National Security.

#### **Expenditure on defence purchases**

3605. SHRI N.K. SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total expenditure on defence purchases by India over the past three years and the percentage of total defence purchases which have come from the Indian private sector companies;  
(b) whether the policy of procuring defence equipment over the past three years has had a definitive roadmap towards indigenization and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;  
(c) whether Government is considering to increase the current Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) limit in defence manufacturing sector for promotion of an indigenous technology base and to generate greater domestic employment; and  
(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : (a) Sir, the total expenditure on defence purchases by India during the past three years (Revenue and Capital) was Rs. 197123.76 crore. This includes procurement made from Indian Private Sector, Public Sector Undertakings, Ordnance Factories and Foreign Sources. The

accounting system does not separately capture data regarding defence purchases made from the Indian Private Sector.

(b) There has been a major thrust on indigenous manufacture of defence equipment through collaborative efforts of Defence Research and Development Organisation, Defence Public Sector Undertakings, Ordnance Factory Board and Indian Private Sector. Defence Industry was opened up for Indian Private Sector participation in May, 2001, with FDI upto 26% subject to licensing. With a view to achieve greater self-reliance in defence production, Government has announced a defence production policy in January, 2011. Besides, the Government has included a categorization “Buy and Make (Indian)” in the Defence Procurement Procedure in November, 2009 to encourage indigenous production in the country.

(c) and (d) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

#### **Induction of Russian submarine Nerp into Navy**

3606. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is all set to join the elite club of nations possessing nuclear powered submarines with the induction of the Russian-origin Nerp into the Navy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the development makes a crucial step forward in the country's defence preparedness; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A nuclear powered submarine was commissioned into the Indian Navy in January 2012.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A nuclear powered submarine provides the Navy a strong sea denial capability essential for Naval operations.

#### **Ban on construction in South East Ladakh**

3607. SHRI BALBIR PUNJ : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has imposed a ban on any kind of construction in Demchok area of southeastern Ladakh in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;