

**Licence to private companies for manufacturing defence equipment**

3597. SHRI P. RAJEEVE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of private companies that have been given licences to manufacture defence equipment from January, 2011 till the present; and
- (b) the reasons for Government factories' inability to meet the manufacturing demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU) : (a) 25 private companies have been given licences to manufacture defence equipment from January, 2011 till date, as intimated by Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion, which is the licensing authority.

- (b) Modernisation of the armed forces leading to increased requirement of the defence equipment and technology gaps are main reasons, due to which Government factories are not able to meet the manufacturing demands.

**Restructuring of HAL**

3598. SHRI RAMA CHANDRA KHUNTIA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to restructure the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL) and an expert group under the Chairmanship of B.K. Chaturvedi has been nominated to recommend the possible suggestion and recommendation for the restructuring of HAL; and
- (b) whether participation of private industries in defence production will affect the future of Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd.?

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

- (b) Private sector participation will lead to greater competitiveness and much needed additional capacity creation in the defence sector.

**Purchase of tanks for Army**

3599. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of firms/countries from whom tanks have been purchased by the Army since last three years;
- (b) whether these tanks are working satisfactorily and giving satisfactory services in accordance with the specifications;

(c) whether some middle-men/companies negotiated on behalf of foreign suppliers; and

(d) if so, the names of such persons/companies?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : (a) Sir, no tanks have been purchased by the Army from any firms/countries over the last three years. However, tanks are being supplied to Army through Ordnance Factory Board.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Low percentage ratio of pilots training**

†3600. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the current Indian Air Force target to give training to 220 pilots is 15 to 30 per cent below the requirement;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is soon going to purchase 126 combat aircrafts;

(c) if so, the time by when arrangements of pilots for combat aircrafts would be made;

(d) whether it is also a fact that Indian Air Force has not been successful in purchasing simulator for trainer aircraft, or upgrading it for last decade;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps being taken by Government to meet the shortage of pilots?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Acquisition of new platform is part of the modernization and upgradation of Indian Air Force's capabilities. The new combat aircraft would be manned by pilots of the existing older fleet, which are planned for replacement by the new aircraft.

(d) and (e) The Indian Air Force has already procured 4 simulators for Hawk Advanced Jet aircraft. 4 more have been contracted. Further, eight simulators of Intermediate Jet Trainer (IJT) aircraft, have also been contracted for.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.