

Sightings of UFO in Ladakh region

2072. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Army troops guarding the Indo-China border have reported sightings of Unidentified Flying Objects (UFOs) in the Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has initiated talks with China in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether China disputes the International boundary between India and China;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the security measures being taken by Government regarding Chinese transgressions in the border?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (g) There is no conclusive proof of Unidentified Flying Objects flying over India-China border. China disputes the International Boundary between India and China. There is no commonly delineated 'Line of Actual Control' (LAC) between the two countries. Both sides patrol up to their respective perceptions of LAC. However, Chinese patrolling upto their perception of LAC are treated as transgressions. Such incidents of transgressions are taken up with the Chinese side through established mechanisms such as Hot Lines, Flag Meetings, Border Personnel Meetings and the newly established Working Mechanism on Consultation and Coordination on India-China border affairs. Effective border management is carried out through surveillance and regular patrolling.

Meeting of defence acquisition council

2073. SHRI AJAY SANCHETI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Defence Acquisition Council met recently;

(b) if so, the acquisition proposals pertaining to Army, Air Force and Navy cleared by the Council;