

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;

(c) whether the issue of modernization of the armed forces was also discussed in the meeting; and

(d) if so, decisions taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Defence Acquisition Council meets at a regular interval. It recently met on 29.10.2012. In this meeting, a number of Capital Acquisition proposals relating to Army, Navy and Air Force were considered and appropriate recommendations were made.

(c) and (d) Modernisation of the Armed Forces including the Navy and Air Force, is a continuous process based on threat perception, operational necessity, technological changes and available resources. The subject matter of "Modernisation of Armed Forces" has not been discussed in the above meeting as a specific agenda item.

Compensation to children of policemen killed by Maoists

2074. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of policemen killed by Maoists since January, 2010;

(b) the total compensation paid to the kith and kins of these policemen;

(c) whether Government has appointed the children of these policemen in Government services;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) As per inputs, a total number of 540 security force personnel have been killed in Left Wing Extremist (LWE) violence since January, 2010 (upto 10.12.2012).

(b) to (e) Under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme, *ex-gratia* payment of Rs. 3 lakh to the family of each security personnel killed due to LWE violence is reimbursed by the Central Government. Besides, the State Governments have their own policy for payment of *ex-gratia* to the families of security personnel killed in LWE violence.