

Helicopter manufacturing unit at Bidar, Karnataka

4544. SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any helicopter manufacturing unit is running at Bidar district of Karnataka under the Ministry;

(b) whether Karnataka Government has made any proposal for this project of Bidar district; and

(c) if so, the details of progress made, and by when it will be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
(SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Government of Karnataka has offered 1060 acres of Government Land in Bidar District to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), to set up Helicopter Manufacturing Unit. HAL is presently exploring the possibility of acquiring suitable Defence Land for setting up Production Division for Helicopters.

**Fresh tenders applied by companies involved
in VVIP helicopter deal scam**

4545. SHRI ALOK TIWARI:

SHRI ARVIND KUMAR SINGH:

SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

SHRI KIRANMAY NANDA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the tainted companies in VVIP helicopters deal have applied for tenders for supply of helicopters for Indian Coast Guards and Navy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these above companies have been blacklisted by Government for involvement in bribery in VVIP helicopter deal;

(d) if so, the details thereof and how they have applied for fresh tenders;

(e) if not, the reasons for not blacklisting these companies; and

(f) by when these companies would be blacklisted?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. M/s Agusta Westland has submitted bids for Naval Utility Helicopters (NUH) of Navy and Twin Engine Helicopters proposal of Indian Coast Guard.

(c) to (e) No decision regarding blacklisting of Agusta Westland Company has been taken so far, as the matter is under examination.

(f) As the case is under investigation by CBI, no specific date can be given at this stage.

Modernisation of naval vessels

4546. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether naval vessels are fully equipped with modern warfare Equipment, to defend our maritime frontiers in high seas, keeping in view the fast changing technology scenario to sustain the Nation's defence mobility capabilities to withstand the onslaught of any sudden eventuality;

(b) whether our Defence Shipyards located in west and east coasts, have embarked upon expansion and modernization plans;

(c) if so, whether they are able to meet the increasing demands of Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guards, etc.; and

(d) the percentage of budgetary allocations for Research and Development activities in our Ship Building yards for on-going and launching of new systemized and planned modernisation, aiming at creating new facilities and infrastructure?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) Yes, Sir. Modernisation of the Indian Navy is an ongoing process keeping in view the prevailing security environment, threat perceptions, emerging technologies and capabilities to be achieved.

(b) and (c) Our Defence Shipyard with both on the east and west coast have taken up modernisation and with appropriate collaboration are able to meet the increasing demands of Indian Navy, Indian Coast Guards etc.

(d) Budgetary allocations in 2010-11, 2011-12 and Twelfth plan for research and Development activities in our Ship Building Yards for ongoing and launching of new systemised and planned modernisation, aiming at creating new facilities and infrastructure, are indicated against each yard respectively: