

Port visit by Chinese submarines

2560. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Chinese Naval submarines are paying port visits to Indian ports on the pretext of anti-piracy patrols; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Purchase of VVIP choppers

2561. SHRI PANKAJ BORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked for tender to purchase VVIP choppers;

(b) if so, whether Government has received offers from foreign contractors;

(c) if so, the details of bidding thereon;

(d) whether it is also a fact that some foreign companies are still working with Government who have been declared "banned" by Government itself; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) to (e) No tender has been issued to purchase VVIP choppers. Consequent to the registration of a case by CBI to inquire into alleged criminal wrong doing in the procurement of VVIP helicopters, Ministry of Defence has issued orders for dealing with M/s Finmeccanica group of companies and other companies figuring in the FIR registered by CBI, in cases which are at various stages of procurement/acquisition.

Cyber attacks on defence forces assets

2562. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:

SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that cyber crime is becoming a major threat to national security and the details of measures armed forces are bracing to cope with the challenge;

(b) whether pen-drive has been used in 70 per cent incidents of hacking of information and is proving to be a great threat; and