

**Exchange of commission in arms procurement from abroad**

†\*373. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that exchange of commission takes place during the purchase of defence weapons from abroad and scams in defence deals take place due to this practice;

(b) if so, the steps Government is taking to curb such practice; and

(c) the type of weapons which are procured from abroad?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) and (b) The capital procurement of defence weapons/equipment is carried out as per the provisions of Defence Procurement Procedure-2013 (DPP-2013) which contains provisions including the signing of Pre-Contract Integrity Pact (PCIP), Standard Clauses in the contract and submission of Integrity Pact Bank Guarantee (IPBG) by the vendor, with an aim to ensure highest degree of probity and public accountability, transparency in operations, free competition and impartiality.

Allegations of corruption/commission/scams are dealt with as per provisions of DPP and wherever necessary, the cases are referred to the appropriate agency for further investigation. Action that can be taken against vendors found violating the provisions of DPP include debarment of the Seller, termination of contract, imposition of penal damages and forfeiture of Bank Guarantee.

(c) Weapons that can be procured from abroad are those that are categorised as either 'Buy (Global)' or 'Buy and Make' by the categorisation committees as per the provisions of Defence Procurement Procedure.

**Unbanked villages in Odisha**

\*374. SHRI A.U. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken a survey to study blocks/districts in the country having low penetration of banks/ATMs;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.