

**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.

(c) whether Government is aware that as per 2011 Census, only 41 per cent of rural households in Odisha are covered by bank accounts, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether as on April, 2014 as many as 4597 Gram Panchayats in Odisha are without any bank branch, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps proposed therefor along with the details of places identified for opening branches, timeline etc.?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) No Sir. However, under Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) survey of households was undertaken to identify those households, which did not have any bank account.

(c) to (e) Yes Sir, but the situation has improved thereafter. It has been identified in the survey done by banks that the coverage of households with bank accounts in Odisha is 78% as on 30.11.2014. State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) of Odisha had prepared an action plan for covering 4597 unbanked Gram Panchayats to be covered by bank branch or Business Correspondent by the end of 2018-19. In the meanwhile, under the Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana, rural areas in the country have been divided into Sub Service Areas (SSAs) and banks have been asked to cover SSAs by either branch or fixed point interoperable Business Correspondent. SSAs have been made in such a way that one SSA caters to about 1000-1500 households and each village has access to bank facility within a reasonable distance. In the case of Odisha, as on 30.11.2014, out of 6309 SSAs, 955 are covered by Brick and Mortar branches and 4330 by Business Correspondents.

#### **G20 Summit in Australia**

\*375. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Hon'ble Prime Minister has recently attended the G-20 Summit held in Australia, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the bilateral matters that have come up for discussion;

(c) the details of the deliberations that took place on the current status of our economic situation; and

(d) the measures considered to be taken to increase economic growth in the country?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) The Hon'ble Prime