

BSF helicopters stationed in Delhi

*178. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for the past 12 years, six MI-17 IV helicopters of BSF have been stationed in Delhi resulting in drastically reducing the number of flying hours left for the task;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has made any efforts to train BSF personnel to maintain, service and operate these helicopters and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the corrective steps taken by Government to ensure proper utilization of helicopters and manpower of BSF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Six MI -17 IV helicopters have been stationed in Delhi for enhancing the mobility and improving operational efficiency of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs). The stationing of helicopters was considered necessary in Delhi in view of the infrastructure support, serviceability and maintenance of the helicopters. The helicopters have now completed their Total Technical Life (TTL) and presently only 01 MI-17 IV is functional and the rest are awaiting major overhaul. The Government meanwhile has approved the purchase of 08 new MI-17 V5 helicopters. 02 new MI-17 V5 helicopters have been received and 06 more are expected to be delivered in the current financial year.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has taken steps to train the existing manpower to maintain the helicopter fleet. Further, additional technicians are being recruited. In addition, an MoU has been signed between BSF and Indian Air Force for training of Pilots, Engineers and Technicians and other necessary operational and maintenance support.

Committee of Ministers for dialogue on Small Factories Bill

*179. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has set up a Committee of four Central Union Ministers to hold dialogue with the stake holders about the contentious provisions of the Small Factories Bill, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether the said Committee had held any discussions with the trade unions in this regard and if so, the details thereof?