

critical operational necessity for Multirole Combat Aircraft for Indian Air Force (IAF), Government of India would like to acquire 36 Rafale jets in fly-away condition. Both the sides also agreed to conclude an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) for supply of the aircraft.

A Negotiating Team has been constituted to negotiate the terms and conditions of the procurement of 36 Rafale jets and recommend a draft agreement. The meetings of the Indian Negotiations Team with the French side are underway.

Ministry of Law and Justice have made certain observations and the same will be adequately taken into account while finalizing the IGA, which is still under negotiations.

Rapid growth in helicopter requirements by the defence forces

1017. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that defence helicopters segment is rapidly growing and that there are approximately 1200 helicopters with defence forces;

(b) whether the defence sector would be requiring 800-1000 new helicopters in the next decade; and

(c) whether the increased number of helicopters would be requiring more Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul facility for the defence sector, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) Number of helicopters available with defence forces at present and number of new helicopters required in the next decade can not be divulged in the interest of national security. Further, capacity build-up of defence forces as well as acquisition of new helicopters depend upon the national security / threat perception, strategic objectives and operational requirements of the defence forces and is reviewed by the Government from time to time. This is a continuous process.

(c) Creation of Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul facilities depends upon the number of helicopters held by the Services.

Time gap in replacement for de-commissioned naval vessels

1018. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that time gap in replacement for de-commissioned vessels of Naval and Coast Guard is longer in India, if so, reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government proposes to adopt benchmark procedure which are being adopted in advanced countries in this regard; and

(c) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) to (c) The induction and decommissioning of ships and submarines is planned in accordance with the Maritime Capability Perspective Plan (MCP) in Indian Navy and Coast Guard Development Plan (CGDP) in Indian Coast Guard. The MCP / CGDP are contemporary in nature and in keeping with the practices in the leading Navies. The MCP / CGDP are revised every five years based on the capabilities to be achieved, threat perceptions, prevailing external security environment, emerging technologies and availability of funds.

Finalisation of new DPP

1019. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalized or proposed to finalise new defence procurement policy (DPP) as part of Make in India initiative, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any weightage is given to Indian industry and how will it help indigenously-designed developed defence industry; and

(c) the details of strategic partnership in the defence purchase, procurement and projects?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) to (c) The new Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) 2016 containing the Preamble and 5 Chapters has been put on Ministry of Defence website on 28.03.2016. The new DPP focuses on giving boost to the 'Make in India' initiative of the Government of India, through Indigenous design, development and manufacturing of defence equipment, platforms and systems. A new category viz Buy (Indian-IDDM) which is Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured, has been introduced as the most preferred category of procurement. 'Make' procedure has been simplified to ensure increased participation of the Indian industry. Indigenous content has been enhanced / rationalised. Provisions for involving private industry as Production Agencies and Technology Transfer Partners have been incorporated. The role of MSMEs have been enhanced in the defence sector.

The V.K. Aatre Task Force was constituted by the Government to lay down criteria for selection of the Strategic Partners for various platforms from the Private Sector Industry. It has presented its Report to the Government.