

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) to (d)
As per India-France Joint Statement issued by the two countries during the Prime Minister's visit to France, Government of India conveyed to the Government of France that in view of the 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 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. The details regarding the terms and conditions including total cost, actual delivery timelines and guarantee period will emerge once the negotiations are completed.

Changes in the present system of security at airports

*20. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attack at Brussels (Belgium) Airport has exposed a major chink in the security at Indian Airports;

(b) whether Government proposes to bring changes in the present system; and

(c) if so, the details of the changes proposed to be implemented and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ASHOK GAJAPATHI RAJU PUSAPATI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The security system at airports in India is reviewed from time to time and upgraded as per requirements with involvement of all security agencies and stakeholders, depending upon threat perceptions.

Shortage of Nephrologists in the country

*21. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to open a dialysis centre in every district of Maharashtra and rest of the country to provide dialysis, free of cost, to the poor, if so, the details thereof;