Production of HTT-40 trainer aircraft

216. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 2nd Basic Trainer Aircraft Hindustan Turbo Trainer-40 (HTT-40) developed by HAL successfully completed its maiden flight without any glitch;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the production of HTT-40 in the near future; and

(c) the manner in which the Ministry proposes to fund the project of HTT-40 in order to increase the production of HTT-40 for training purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) Yes, Sir. Maiden flight of 2nd Prototype (PT-2) of Basic Trainer Aircraft (HTT-40) has been successfully completed on 19th May, 2017. The aircraft flew for one hour carrying out important manoeuvres, touching altitude of 20000 ft. and maximum speed of 185 kmph.

(b) Presently, the project is in advanced stage of development. Two prototypes have been developed and produced till date and both prototypes are under flight trials. Additionally, one more prototype will be manufactured to further speed up the development process. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) aims to get the aircraft certified by December, 2018 which will be followed by series production.

In February, 2015, the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) approved procurement of 70 Basic Trainer Aircraft from HAL. Considering this, HAL has planned to set up facility for manufacturing of 15-20 aircraft per annum.

(c) HTT-40 is funded by HAL with its own resources.

Defence agreements with Russia

217. SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has signed any defence agreements with Russia;

(b) when were these agreements signed and what is the nature of the agreements;

(c) whether Government has got inserted any clause which require the Russian Government to produce the items agreed to be purchased by India to be made fully in India and for passing the technology to our country; and