

During the last three years and current year (upto October, 2018), out of total 188 contracts, 121 contracts have been signed with Indian vendors including DPSLTs/PSUs/OFB and private vendors for capital procurement of defence equipment for Armed Forces such as Helicopters, Naval vessels, Radars, Ballistic Helmets, Artillery Guns, Simulators, Missiles, Bullet Proof Jackets, Electronic Fuzes and ammunition.

Currently, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has firm orders to manufacture platforms like Sukhoi Aircraft, Light Combat Aircraft, Dornier Aircraft, Advance Light Helicopter, Chetak and Cheetal Helicopter, which are likely to be executed in the next 3-4 years.

Specialist officers in AFMS

2731. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is a shortage of specialists/super-specialists in Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS);

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) details of steps taken by Government to ensure adequate availability of specialists/super-specialists in AFMS including setting up of more Armed Forces Medical Colleges across the country;

(d) if so, details thereof; and

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to (e) The existing training capacity in the post graduate teaching institutes of the Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) is adequate to ensure supply of specialists and super-specialists for the AFMS. Further, civilian candidates undergoing specialists training in AFMS institutes sign a bond to serve for a minimum period of 5 years in the AFMS after completion of their training. The intake capacity of Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC), Pune has been increased from 135 to 150 cadets per year from the academic year 2018-19. At present, there is no proposal to set up more AFMCs across the country.