

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3160
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2006
PROCUREMENT OF SPECIAL HELICOPTERS
Deora Shri Milind Murlu

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to procure "Special Helicopters" as reported in the Asian Age, dated October 13, 2006;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof ;
- (c) the total expenditure likely to be incurred alongwith the time by which the Special Helicopters are likely to be purchased; and
- (d) the comparison of these helicopters with the earlier helicopters alongwith the fate of the earlier helicopters?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (c) : Government have approved in principle procurement of helicopters for travel of VVIPs and VIPs, in replacement of the existing helicopters. Request for Proposal for the procurement has been issued to various vendors in September, 2006. The purchase of the helicopters is made in accordance with the established Defence Procurement Procedure which envisages a time frame of 2-3 years for conclusion of contract.

(d) The helicopters will be comparable and in certain respects better than the earlier helicopters which are completing their technical life by 2009.