

**COMMITTEE ON  
GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES  
(2020-2021)**

**(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)**

**TWENTY-FOURTH REPORT**

**REVIEW OF PENDING ASSURANCES PERTAINING TO THE  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
(DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE)**

Presented to Lok Sabha on 09 / 03 / 2021



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

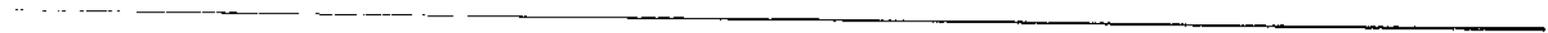
March, 2021 / Phalgun, 1942 (Saka)

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(i)

*\* Implementation Reports laid on  
11.02.2021.*



**COMPOSITION OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES\*  
(2020 - 2021)**

**SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL** - Chairperson

**MEMBERS**

2. Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay
3. Shri Nihal Chand Chauhan
4. Shri Gaurav Gogoi
5. Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel
6. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
7. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
8. Shri Ashok Mahadeorao Nete
9. Shri Santosh Pandey
10. Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras
11. Shri M.K. Raghavan
12. Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu
13. Dr. Bharatiben Dhirubhai Shyal
14. Shri Indra Hang Subba
15. Smt. Supriya Sule

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri Pawan Kumar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Lovekesh Kumar Sharma - Director
3. Shri S. L. Singh - Deputy Secretary

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\* The Committee has been constituted w.e.f. 09 October, 2020 *vide* Para No. 1773 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 16 October, 2020



## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Committee on Government Assurances (2020-2021), having been authorized by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this Twenty-Fourth Report (17<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Government Assurances.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2019-2020) at their sitting held on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence) regarding pending Assurances.
3. At their sitting held on 03 December 2020, the Committee on Government Assurances (2020-2021) considered and adopted this Report.
4. The Minutes of the aforesaid sittings of the Committee form part of the Report.
5. For facility of reference and convenience, the Observations and Recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in the Report.

NEW DELHI;  
05 March, 2021  
Phalguna 14 , 1942 (Saka)

**RAJENDRA AGRAWAL,**  
**CHAIRPERSON,**  
**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES**



# REPORT

## I. Introductory

The Committee on Government Assurances scrutinize the Assurances, promises, undertakings, etc., given by the Ministers from time to time on the floor of the House and report the extent to which such Assurances, promises and undertakings have been implemented. Once an Assurance has been given on the floor of the House, the same is required to be implemented within a period of three months. The Ministries/Departments of the Government of India are under obligation to seek extension of time required beyond the prescribed period for fulfilment of the Assurance. Where a Ministry/Department is unable to implement an Assurance, that Ministry/Department is bound to request the Committee for dropping it. The Committee consider such requests and approve dropping, in case, they are convinced that grounds cited are justified. The Committee also examine whether the implementation of Assurances has taken place within the minimum time necessary for the purpose and the extent to which the Assurances have been implemented.

2. The Committee on Government Assurances (2009-2010) took a policy decision to call the representatives of various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, in a phased manner, to review the pending Assurances, examine the reasons for pendency and analyze operation of the system prescribed in the Ministries/Departments for dealing with Assurances. The Committee also decided to consider the quality of Assurances implemented by the Government.

3. The Committee on Government Assurances (2014-2015) decided to follow the well established and time tested procedure of calling the representatives of the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, in a phased manner and review the pending Assurances. The Committee took a step further and decided to call the representatives of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs also as all the Assurances are implemented through it.

4. In pursuance of the *ibid* decision, the Committee on Government Assurances (2019-2020) called the representatives of the Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence) and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to render clarifications with regard to delay in implementation of the pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Defence

(Department of Defence) at their sitting held on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2020. The Committee examined in detail the following 22 Assurances:

<b>Sl.No.</b>	<b>SQ/USQ No. dated</b>	<b>Subject</b>
1.	USQ No. 1332 Dated 15-07-2004	Appointment of Chief of Defence Staff (Appendix-I)
2.	USQ No. 1734 Dated 04-08-2005	Institution of CDS (Appendix-II)
3.	SQ No. 258 Dated 10-08-2006	Appointment of Chief of Defence Staff (Appendix-III)
4.	USQ No. 302 Dated 20-10-2008	Chief of Defence Staff (Appendix-IV)
5.	USQ No. 6154 Dated 14-05-2012	Kargil Review Committee (Appendix-V)
6.	USQ No. 3545 Dated 03-09-2012	Implementation of KRC Report (Appendix-VI)
7.	USQ No. 3290 Dated 18-03-2013	Chief of Defence Staff (Appendix-VII)
8.	USQ No. 6274 Dated 06-05-2013	Naresh Chandra Task Force (Appendix-VIII)
9.	SQ No. 168 Dated 19-08-2013	Chief of Defence Staff (Appendix-IX)
10.	USQ No. 645 Dated 26-11-2012	Coast Guard Airport (Appendix-X)
11.	SQ No. 81 Dated 04-03-2013	VVIP Helicopters Deal (Appendix-XI)
12.	SQ No. 554 Dated 06-05-2013	VVIP Helicopter Deal (Appendix-XII)
13.	USQ No. 154 Dated 05-08-2013	VVIP Helicopter Deal (Appendix-XIII)
14.	USQ No. 2668 Dated 26-08-2013	VIP Helicopter Deal (Appendix-XIV)

15.	USQ No. 3221 Dated 01-08-2014	Procurement of Helicopters (Appendix-XV)
*16.	USQ No. 1094 Dated 04-03-2013	Commercial Use of Defence Land (Appendix-XVI)
17.	USQ No. 6221 Dated 06-05-2013	Training Centres of Armed Forces (Appendix-XVII)
18.	USQ No. 2758 Dated 26-08-2013	Orderlies for Defence Officers (Appendix-XVIII)
*19.	USQ No. 1316 Dated 18-07-2014	Defence Deals (Appendix-XIX)
20.	USQ No. 2455 Dated 25-07-2014	Payment of Service Charges (Appendix-XX)
*21.	USQ No. 4493 Dated 08-08-2014	Cases of Irregularities in Defence Sector (Appendix-XXI)
22.	SQ No. 285 Dated 12-12-2014 (Supplementary by Dr. Shashi Tharoor, M.P.)	Recruitment in Defence Forces (Appendix-XXII)

5. The Extracts from the Manual of Parliamentary Procedures in the Government of India, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs laying guidelines on the definition of an Assurance, the time limit for its fulfilment, dropping/deletion and extension, the procedure for fulfilment, etc., besides maintenance of Register of Assurances and periodical reviews to minimize delays in implementation of the Assurances are reproduced at Appendix-XXIII.

6. During oral evidence, the Committee emphasized that the Ministries/Departments are required to implement an Assurance within a period of 3 months and if the Ministries/Departments are unable to fulfil the Assurance within that time period, then it is imperative for them to seek extension of time. Observing that the Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence) had a total of 87 pending Assurances and noticing that there were inordinate delays in fulfilment of these Assurances, the Committee enquired about the monitoring and periodical review of the pending Assurances in the Ministry to minimize delays in their

implementation and the mechanism available for implementation of Parliamentary Assurances. In reply, the Secretary, Department of Defence accordingly briefed the Committee as under:

*"Sir, first of all I would like to thank you and the Committee that you have given us an opportunity to review the Assurances pending in our Ministry. I would also like to mention that at present 58 Assurances out of the total 87 Assurances are pending in the Department of Defence and the rest have now gone to, a new Department, the Department of Military Affairs. Earlier it was also in the Department of Defence. Sir, we do a weekly high-level meeting for this, in which we review Assurances. In between, the hon'ble Minister has also reviewed and recently he has taken some decisions in accordance with which action could be taken. Despite this, some Assurances remain pending. Last year, we had 58 Assurances on 01.04.2019. In the past year, we resolved 21 Assurances. I would like to say that in the last three-four months, there has been some laxity in progress due to COVID, but every week in high level meeting at my level, we discuss this with all the Joint Secretaries and take follow up action on that. There are three or four things in it, due to which our Defence Assurances are pending. One of the main issues in that of the court cases. We have a lot of Assurances in respect of which some cases have been filed; there is Agusta Westland case, some other cases, CBI cases, etc. In these cases, the action goes outside our Department. The investigation by CBI continues, we do not have any control over it. We constantly keep taking reports from them about the status of the cases, when the investigations are going to end, but beyond that, we have no control over them. Secondly, my request before the Committee is that the cases in which the CBI has filed the charge sheet have gone outside the purview of*

*the Government; the CBI is an instrument of the Government, but these cases have gone under the court's jurisdiction. The charge sheet is filed and then the case goes on in court. If the Committee consider it appropriate that the cases which have gone to court should not be considered as Assurances, then there can be solution for many things. Sir, there are some other type of things; there are policy investments; there are issues which are considered at the highest level of Government but the decision could not be made. Even today, you will see that we have about 9 Assurances, which were related to the appointment of CDS, which was going on since 2004. When CDS was appointed, all these Assurances have been fulfilled and closed. These have been placed before you. In the same way, the issue of NOC guidelines comes many times in our pendency list and on this issue we have about 10-11 Assurances. If decision is taken on this, then 10-11 Assurances will be fulfilled together. These are three major issues which, with each having around 10-12 or 15 cases, have brought the number to 58. In respect of the individual cases numbering one or two, which are in the list of the Committee today, I will tell you in detail about these when you will ask questions. They are stucked due to some administrative reasons. We are trying to solve them as quickly as possible. They will be solved."*

7. In view of the explanations submitted by the representatives of the Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence) during the course of oral evidence, the Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence) to drop the Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 11 to 15 and 17 in the list given in Para 04 of this Report.

8. Subsequently, 10 Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 1 to 9 and 22 have since been implemented on 16.09.2020 while the Assurance mentioned at Sl. No. 18 has been implemented on 20.09.2020.

### **Observations/Recommendations**

9. The Committee note that out of the 22 pending Assurances of the Ministry of Defence taken up by them, the 05 Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 10, 16, 19, 20 and 21 are still pending for implementation even after lapse of time ranging from more than 6 to 8 years whereas the 06 Assurances mentioned at Sl. Nos. 11 to 15 and 17 were pending for more than 6 to 7 years when the Committee acceded to the Ministry's request for dropping them. The remaining 11 Assurances could be implemented after delays ranging from about 6 years to more than 16 years. This is indicative of the fact that monitoring and follow-up action taken by the Ministry for implementation of Assurances has been inadequate. The review of the pending Assurances also reveals that the existing mechanism put in place by the Ministry for fulfilling the Assurances especially those involving other Departments is far from effective inspite of conducting regular review meetings as claimed by the Ministry. The Committee are fully aware of the fact that implementation of Assurances related to policy matters, defence procurement cases and other defence related issues requiring major decisions require more time and may be difficult to be executed within the prescribed time period. However, sustained and focused efforts need to be made to implement these Assurances expeditiously in the national interest instead of allowing things to take their own course. Needless to mention the utility and relevance of an Assurance are lost if there is inordinate delay in the

implementation of the same. The Committee are of the view that a country like ours which is beset with multifaceted security challenges and multi dimensional threat perception can hardly afford lackadaisical attitude and indecisiveness. The Committee desire that the existing review mechanism for implementation of Assurances instituted by the Ministry be streamlined, infused with innovative ideas and reinforced with synchronized follow up action. The cases may also be monitored and reviewed at the highest level at periodic intervals. The Committee also desire that the Minutes of the review meetings conducted by the Ministry from time to time to monitor/review implementation of the Assurances be invariably furnished to them as these will help the Committee in taking stock of the progress made by the Ministry with regard to implementation of Assurances.

## II. Review of the Pending Assurances of the Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence).

10. In the succeeding paragraphs, the Committee deal with some of the important pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence) and critically examined by them.

### A. Coast Guard Airport

11. In reply to USQ No. 645 dated 26.11.2012 regarding 'Coast Guard Airport' (Appendix-X), it was stated that the Government had approved the setting up of Coast Guard Air Enclave at Minicoy on 30.09.2010. 20 acres of land had been identified for the said purpose and the proposal for acquisition of the land was in progress. The Airport would be operationalised in due course after obtaining necessary clearances/ approvals.

12. Giving an update on the efforts made by them to implement the Assurance, the Ministry stated in their Status Note furnished in August, 2020 as under:-

*"Lakshadweep Administration is preparing necessary guidelines for acquiring land from local Pandaram people following the notification on the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Island Land Revenue and Tenancy (Amendment) Regulation, 2020 on 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2020. However, it is not possible to give exact timelines to set up the Airport at Minicoy."*

13. During oral evidence, the Committee enquired about the delay in implementing the Assurance. The Secretary, Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence) explained as under:-

*"Sir, this Assurance is regarding construction of an Air Enclave in Minicoy by Coast Guard. The Assurance was given in this regard and it was stated that 20 acres of land would be made available for Air Enclave, for which action is underway. After this, it has been discussed many times, at many levels. The Government of India gave its approval to the Coast Guard on September 30, 2010, to build an Air Enclave*

here. Previously, it was planned that the Airport Authority would build an airport here and inside the airport there would be a small Coast Guard Air Enclave from where Coast Guard helicopters, etc. could operate. The Airport Authority of India later dropped their plan. They said that it is not viable for them, so they do not want to build the airport. This was again discussed in the Defence Ministry in April 2015. It was decided that for the airport to be built there, the Coast Guard would need 82,500 sqm of land and for this, the MoD sanctioned and paid Rs 18 crore to the Lakshadweep Administration in the year 2015 to initiate action under the Land Acquisition Act. In the area where there is land for the airport, there is some Pandaram land. The UT Administration has not been able to take possession of it yet and due to this, land could not be made available. In this regard, a meeting was also held in NITI Aayog, in which it was decided that here the airport will be built by the Indian Air Force. The Coast Guard enclave will be built along with that airport and the UT Administration has to make land available for it. This has been the subject of discussion many times. It has also been written to the UT Administration and it is trying to get the land but since there is a dispute about land ownership; the land belongs to Government but it is occupied by a few people and there is a dispute as to who is occupying the land, no decision could be taken so far despite the efforts of UT Administration. Due to this situation, Air Enclave could not be built there. As soon as we get the land, we will take this work forward. Now we are waiting for this thing. It is in this situation."

14. When the Committee desired to know the difficulties faced by the Government in acquiring land in the Union Territory, the representative from the UT Administration of Lakshadweep replied during evidence as under:

*"Sir, this is the issue of Pandaram Island. Its issue was that this is occupied by the people, but they did not have the rights and ownership of the land. In Lakshadweep, there was a Lakshadweep Land Regulation Act of 1965, according to which all the land was regulated. We cannot acquire the land occupied by the people because they did not have any ownership. This Act has been amended by the Cabinet and it has also been notified in the Gazette. This issue has almost been resolved and has also been notified in the Gazette. Now we have to issue 'Pattayam' to those people who have occupied the land and that will take around two months."*

15. On being enquired whether the local people would be shifted to a new place, the representative of the UT Administration of Lakshadweep responded during evidence as under:

*"No Sir, they can go wherever they want, but the land will be theirs. We are giving them ownership of the land. There are generations of the people who first occupied those khas (specific/particular) land. When we issue a lease to someone, we call it Pattayam in Lakshadweep, when we issue 'Pattayam' there will be claims and counter-claims. So we are taking Minicoy first and we are expecting that within two months, by the end of October, we will resolve it. We will issue Pattayam. Before the end of this year, we will acquire the land and hand it over to them."*

16. The Committee enquired whether any plan has been made as per which the airport would be constructed. The Secretary, Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence) submitted during evidence as under:

"Sir, Coast Guard has to build the airport. Sir, there are two things in this. By October, we will give 'Pattayam' to the people there. After that the land will become theirs. Thereafter, the Government will acquire the land and give it to us.

17. Further asked as to whether any target has been fixed for this, the Secretary, Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence) stated during evidence as under:

*Sir, in the decision taken by NITI Aayog in the year 2018, it has been said that the land acquired will be given free-of-cost to Air Force. After that the Air Force will build its run-way there and there after all Government institutions can use it. The joint-user airfield will be developed there. They have made its proposal at the level of the Air Force and the same is under progress. SOC and the action on the proposal are running parallel."*

#### **Observations/Recommendations**

18. The Committee find that the Assurance given in reply to USQ No. 645 dated 26.11.2012 regarding 'Coast Guard Airport' has been pending for more than eight years without much progress. The Ministry had stated that the setting up of a Coast Guard Airport at Minicoy was approved on 30.09.2010 and the acquisition of 20 acres of land for the purpose was in progress and the airport would be operationalised in due course after obtaining necessary clearances/ approvals. The Ministry has informed that Lakshadweep Administration is preparing necessary guidelines for acquiring land from local Pandaram people following the notification on the Laccadive, Minicoy and Amindivi Island Land Revenue and Tenancy (Amendment) Regulation, 2020 on

18<sup>th</sup> March, 2020. The Committee agree that implementation of Assurances related to policy matters and land acquisition may take time but for a decision taken/approved more than 10 years ago, the failure to acquire the land even now reveals lack of concerted efforts by the Ministry of Defence and lack of coordination among the stakeholders including the Ministry of Home Affairs and the UT Administration of Lakshadweep. The Ministry ought to have taken prompt action and made intense and sustained efforts to implement the Assurance since Lakshadweep Islands are strategically important for the country and have lots of potential for development of tourism but have not been provided with proper air connectivity so far. In particular, there is no air base at such a strategic island as Minicoy which does not auger well for the country's coastal security and development of coastal tourism. The Committee feel that the matter should be pursued vigorously as it plays a crucial role in the development of the Island's economy through tourism and enhancing the country's defence preparedness. The Committee now expect the Ministry to accord utmost priority to the matter and make vigorous efforts in co-ordination with the Ministry of Home Affairs and the UT Administration of Lakshadweep so that the pending Assurance is implemented without further delay.

**B. Payment of Service Charges**

19. In reply to USQ No. 2455 dated 25.07.2014 regarding 'Payment of Service Charges' (Appendix - XX), it was *inter-alia* stated that Director General of Defence Estate (DGDE) under whose administrative control Cantonment Boards operate, had reported that the total demand of service charges by Secunderabad Cantonment Board on account of lands



and buildings held by Army as on 01.04.2014, was Rs. 367.86 crore. Out of that amount, the demand for the financial year 2014-15 was Rs. 50.39 Crore. DGDE had taken up the issue of unpaid service charges pertaining to various cantonments including Secunderabad Cantonment, with the Army Head Quarters (AHQ) directly and through the Ministry of Defence. Government had held consultation with the concerned stake holders to resolve the issue.

20. In their Status Note furnished in August, 2020, the Ministry apprised the position regarding implementation of the Assurance as under:

*"The matter is under active consideration of the Ministry. Consultation with concerned stakeholders is ongoing based on the clarification of Ministry of Finance and recommendations of Expert Committee constituted by the Ministry."*

21. During oral evidence, the Secretary, Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence) deposed before the Committee with regard to the Assurance as under:

*"There are some service charges due to the Army. This is a long standing issue and could not be resolved. The issue is that the army's buildings that are in the Cantonment Boards are charged a service charge. This is in lieu of property tax which is the income of the Cantonment Boards. There was a suggestion from the Army that on what basis its calculation is being done, then we took up this issue with the Finance Ministry, and they confirmed that the current rate, which is as per an OM of 1966 and based on which the service charge is levied, is approximately one third of the normal property tax, which the Army must pay. But no understanding could be reached in the matter."*

22. When the Committee pointed out the need for expeditiously resolving such inter-Ministerial issues, the Secretary, Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence) replied as under:

*"This issue is not only for Secunderabad but it is an issue for all the Cantonment Boards. The number has gone up drastically in which amount is due as per the circular of the Finance Ministry. It is a basic income of Cantonment Boards, that's why people are worried."*

#### **Observations/Recommendations**

23. The Committee are constrained to note that the Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence) has not been able to resolve the issue regarding 'Payment of Service Charges' even after a lapse of more than six years. Consequently, the Assurance given in reply to USQ No. 2455 dated 25.07.2014 regarding 'Payment of Service Charges' is yet to be implemented. The Ministry has apprised the Committee that the matter is under active consideration of the Ministry and will take time for finalisation. Consultation with concerned stakeholders is ongoing based on the clarification of Ministry of Finance and recommendations of the Expert Committee constituted by the Ministry. The Committee's scrutiny has revealed that there are some service charges due to the Army and this is a long standing issue in almost every Cantonment Board and has not been resolved so far despite having consultations with the Ministry of Finance. The Committee do not appreciate failure on the part of the Ministry of Defence to give due priority to the matter even though the service charges recovered from the Army are a basic income of the Cantonment Boards.

Moreover, it is incumbent upon the Army to maintain fiscal discipline and follow the guidelines relating thereto. For ensuring smooth functioning of the Cantonment Boards and the Army deployments therein, the Committee urge the Department of Defence to pursue the matter earnestly in a time bound manner at the highest level so that such things do not remain stuck up. The Committee, would also desire the Ministry to scale up their inter and intra-Ministry coordination to resolve the issue and implement the Assurance within a specific time frame.

### III. Implementation Reports

24. As per the Statements of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Implementation Reports in respect of the following 11 Assurances have since been laid on the Table of the House on the dates as mentioned against each:

Sl.No	Sl.No. in the Table (Para No. 4)	SQ/USQ No. dated	Date of Implementation
1.	Sl. No. 1	USQ No. 1332 dated 15-07-2004 regarding 'Appointment of Chief of Defence Staff'	16.09.2020
2.	Sl. No. 2	USQ No. 1734 dated 04-08-2005 regarding 'Institution of CDS'	16.09.2020
3.	Sl. No. 3	SQ No. 258 dated 10-08-2006 regarding 'Appointment of Chief of Defence Staff'	16.09.2020
4.	Sl. No. 4	USQ No. 302 dated 20-10-2008 regarding 'Chief of Defence Staff'	16.09.2020
5.	Sl. No. 5	USQ No. 6154 dated 14-05-2012 regarding 'Kargil Review Committee'	16.09.2020
6.	Sl. No. 6	USQ No. 3545 dated 03-09-2012 regarding 'Implementation of KRC Report'	16.09.2020



7.	Sl. No. 7	USQ No. 3290 dated 18-03-2013 regarding 'Chief of Defence Staff'	16.09.2020
8.	Sl. No. 8	USQ No. 6274 dated 06-05-2013 regarding 'Naresh Chandra Task Force'	16.09.2020
9.	Sl. No. 9	SQ No. 168 dated 19-08-2013 regarding 'Chief of Defence Staff'	16.09.2020
10.	Sl. No. 18	USQ No. 2758 dated 26-08-2013 regarding 'Orderlies for Defence Officers'	20.09.2020
11.	Sl. No. 22	SQ No. 285 dated 12-12-2014 (Supplementary by Dr. Shashi Tharoor, M.P.) regarding 'Recruitment in Defence Forces'	16.09.2020

NEW DELHI;  
05 March, 2021  
Phalguna 14 , 1942 (Saka)

**RAJENDRA AGRAWAL,**  
**CHAIRPERSON,**  
**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES**



**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1332**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2004**

**Appointment of Chief of Defence Staff**

**1332. SHRI PRABODH PANDA:**

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to create the post of Chief of Defence Staff of India;
- (b) if so, whether the appointment has been made; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**A N S W E R**

**MINISTER OF DEFENCE**  
**रक्षा मंत्री**

**(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)**  
**( श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी )**

- (a) No, Sir. The Government has not taken a decision on the subject as yet.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) The Group of Ministers (GoM) set up by the Government on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2000 to thoroughly review the national security system in its entirety *inter alia* recommended creation of the post of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). An integrated Defence Staff (IDS) Headquarters has been established, headed by the Chief of Integrated Defence Staff to Chairman, Chief of Staff Committee (CISC). A final view on the institution of CDS will be taken after wider consultation with political parties.

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**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1734**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2005**

**Institution of CDS**

1734. SHRI D.P. SAROJ:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any decision on the institution of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the time by which the decision is expected to be taken in the matter?

**A N S W E R**

**MINISTER OF DEFENCE**  
रक्षा मंत्री

**(SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)**  
( श्री प्रणव मुखर्जी )

(a) & (b): A Group of Ministers (GoM) was constituted on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2000 to review the national security system in its entirety. The GoM in their Report on 'Reforming the National Security System', *inter alia* recommended the establishment of the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). The recommendations made in the Report of the GoM were approved by the Government on May 11, 2001 with the modification that a view on the recommendation relating to the institution of the CDS will be taken after consultation with political parties.

(c) Further discussions including a detailed examination of pros and cons of the proposal are considered necessary before the formulation of Government's views on the subject. A decision regarding appointment of the CDS can be taken only after wider consultation with various political parties.

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## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

## MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

## LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO 258

ANSWERED ON 10.08.2006

## APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF

258 . Shri PANKAJ CHAUDHARY

KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU

Will the Minister of DEFENCE

be pleased to state:-

- (a) whether the Government has taken any decision regarding appointment of Chief of Defence Staff;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

## ANSWER

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

- (a) No, sir. ~~The matter is under consideration.~~
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) As the issues involved in the appointment of Chief of Defence Staff are complex and sensitive in nature, a process of consultation with various political parties has been initiated with a view of having wider consultation. In view of the above, no time limit for taking a decision in the matter can be specified at this stage.



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 302

ANSWERED ON: 20.10.2008

CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF

ARJUN CHARAN SETHI

(a) the details of steps taken by the Government in regard to creation of the post of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS); and

(b) the latest position in this regard?

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:-

ANSWER

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): Pursuant to the Group of Ministers (GOM) report on "Reforming the National Security System" in February 2001, the Government initiated the process of consultation with political parties in March 2006. As this process is still underway, the Government would take a decision on the creation of the post of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) after the consultation is completed. Raksha Mantri has addressed leaders of various national level political parties. Four parties have replied. Parties who have not replied to the letter have been reminded to expedite their views.



LOK SABHAUNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6154TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2012

Kargil Review Committee

6154. SHRI ARJUN MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has implemented all the recommendations made by the Group of Ministers (GoM) on National Security Constituted on the basis of the Kargil Review Committee Report;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the specific measures being taken to achieve jointness and better coordination between the three Services; and
- (d) the current status of the establishment of Chief of Defence Staff as recommended by the GoM?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF DEFENCE

रक्षा मंत्री

(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(श्री ए. के. अन्तनी)

**(a) to (d):** The Report of the Group of Ministers on National Security had six chapters. The Ministry of Defence had been nominated as the nodal Ministry for the Chapter VI, on 'Management of Defence'. The Chapter contains 75 recommendations, of which 63 recommendations have been implemented. Action on four recommendations is in progress. Eight recommendations of Chapter VI relate to the establishment of Chief of Defence Staff. A decision on this matter will be taken after completion of the ongoing consultations with political parties.

The HQ Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS) has been created to enhance jointness and build synergy amongst the Armed Forces, including in the areas of Long Term Plans, force capabilities, joint training, Intelligence, capital acquisition, joint doctrines, etc. The Andaman & Nicobar Command (ANC) has been created to exercise command and control over tri-Service and Coast Guard assets deployed in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Joint exercises/operations are carried out from time to time.

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LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3545

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2012

Implementation of KRC Report

3545. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL:  
SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA:  
SHRI HARSH VARDHAN:  
SHRI BRIJBHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH:  
SHRI BANSA GOPAL CHOWDHURY:  
ADV. A. SAMPATH:  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:  
SHRIMATI JYOTI DHURVE:  
SHRI KACHHADIA NARANBHAI:  
SHRI GOVIND PRASAD MISHRA:

---Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether all the recommendations of the Group of Ministers (GoM), constituted post-Kargil Review Committee (KRC) Report, have been implemented;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the post of Chief of Defence Staff recommended by the GoM has been created; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
रक्षा मंत्री

(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)  
(श्री ए. के. अन्टनी)

(a) & (b): The Report of the Group of Ministers on National Security had six chapters. The Ministry of Defence had been nominated as the nodal Ministry for Chapter VI, on 'Management of Defence'. The Chapter contains 75 recommendations, of which 63 recommendation have been implemented. Action on four recommendations is in progress. Eight recommendations relating to the establishment of Chief of Defence Staff are under consideration.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) A decision on the creation of the post of Chief of Defence Staff will be taken by Government after completion of ongoing consultations with political parties.

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LOK SABHAUNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3290TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2013Chief of Defence Staff

3290. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Kargil Review Committee recommended the appointment of the institution of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government has held any consultations so far on the establishment of CDS with relevant stakeholders including the Chiefs of the three Services, political parties, etc;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the current status of the recommendations and the time by which a decision on this important issue is likely to be taken?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
रक्षा मंत्री

(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)  
(श्री ए. के. अन्टनी)

(a) to (e): The Government constituted a Group of Ministers (GOM) on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2000 to review the national security system in its entirety and in particular, to consider the recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee and to formulate specific proposals for its implementation. The GoM's report on 'Reforming the National Security System' was presented to the Government in February 2001 in which it was, inter alia, recommended to create the institution of Chief of Defence Staff. It was decided that Government would take a view on the establishment of the CDS after consulting various political parties. The process of the consultations was initiated in 2006, with Raksha Mantri writing to the leaders of all major political parties to obtain their views on the creation of the post of CDS. Subsequently the political parties have been reminded to provide their views. Views of some political parties are still awaited. A decision on the matter would be taken after completion of the ongoing consultations.

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6274

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2013

Naresh Chandra Task Force

6274. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Naresh Chandra Task Force on national security has observed while suggesting new initiatives to reform the security establishment that many of the key recommendations of Kargil Review Committee (KRC) for overhaul of national security and defence structure have not yet been implemented;
- (b) if so, the brief of such recommendations of KRC and reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) the reasons for not implementing these recommendations even after lapse of more than a decade; and
- (d) the time likely to be taken by the Government to implement these recommendations?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
रक्षा मंत्री

(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)  
(श्री ए. के. अन्टनी)

(a) to (d): The Naresh Chandra Task Force constituted by Government has submitted its recommendations. The National Security Council Secretariat is conducting inter-ministerial consultations on the recommendations of the Task Force. The Report of the Group of Ministers, which was constituted on the basis of Kargil Review Committee Report, contained 75 recommendations relating to the 'Management of Defence', of which 8 recommendations, relating to the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), are still under consideration of Government. A decision on creation of the post of CDS will be taken by Government after completion of ongoing consultations with political parties.

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LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. 168

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 19<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2013

Chief of Defence Staff

\*168. SHRI SURESH KALMADI:  
SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has examined the proposal for creation of institution of Chief of Defence Staff;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the decision taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether any Task Force constituted by the Government is looking into this issue and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by which final decision is likely to be taken on the issue?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
रक्षा मंत्री

(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)  
(श्री ए. के. अन्टनी)

(a) to (e): The report of the Group of Ministers on 'Reforming the National Security System' had, inter alia, recommended the creation of the institution of Chief of Defence Staff. No Task Force is looking into this issue at present. Government will take a decision on this matter after completing the ongoing consultations with various political parties.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO: 645

ANSWERED ON: 26.11.2012

COAST GUARD AIRPORT

HAMDULLA A. B. SAYEED

- (a) whether there is a proposal to set up a Coast Guard Airport in Lakshadweep Islands;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the stipulated time period for completion of the airport?

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:-

ANSWER

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (c): Government has approved the setting up of Coast Guard Air Enclave at Minicoy on 30th September 2010. 20 acres of land has been identified for the said purpose and the proposal for acquisition of the land is in progress. The Airport will be operationalised in due course after obtaining necessary clearances / approvals.

**LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO.81**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2013**

**VVIP Helicopters deal**

\*81. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:  
SHRI UDAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has signed a deal with M/s Agusta Westland, UK to buy a dozen helicopters for the use of VVIPs at a cost of Rs.3546 crore;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of helicopters so far received by India;
- (c) whether reports of alleged bribery charges in the said deal have come to the notice of the Government and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has ordered a CBI inquiry into the case and if so, the details thereof including the number of persons involved in this deal along with the action taken / initiated against such persons so far; and
- (e) the extent to which this case is likely to affect the other defence deals in the pipeline?

**A N S W E R**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
रक्षा मंत्री

(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)  
(श्री ए. के. अन्टनी)

**(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 81 FOR ANSWER ON 4.3.2013

The Ministry of Defence (MoD) signed a contract with M/s Agusta Westland, U.K. on February 8, 2010 for procurement of 12 VVIP / VIP helicopters at a total cost of Euro 556.26 million as replacement for the ageing Mi-8 fleet in the Air HQ Communication Squadron, which is tasked with VIP transportation. The procurement case was completed in accordance with the established procurement procedure in a transparent manner with all stages of procurement being followed meticulously. Three helicopters, delivered by the vendor, have so far been accepted after completion of Joint Receipt Inspection.

Media reports about alleged wrong doing and unethical conduct by M/s Finmeccanica, parent company of M/s Agusta Westland, U.K. in connection with the purchase of the 12 VVIP helicopters and initiation of preliminary investigations against the company started surfacing since February 2012. Ever since then, Ministry of Defence has pursued the matter with the Embassy in Rome to get credible information regarding the status of investigation and authenticity of the documents / records being cited in various media reports. Given the independence of the Italian Judiciary from the executive and the preliminary investigations being covered by 'Secrecy' clause under the Italian law, no concrete information was forthcoming. The matter was also taken up, through the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) with the U.K. Government in view of the alleged involvement of a British consultant and the fact that the contract had been signed with M/s Agusta Westland, U.K. The UK side informed MEA that they have not launched any investigation and are awaiting the results of the Italian investigation in order to ascertain whether any further action needs to be taken. M/s Agusta Westland, U.K. in the meantime, repeatedly denied any wrongdoing on their part in the contract for purchase of the 12 VVIP Helicopters.

.....2/-

It would be observed from the position indicated above that subsequent to media reports relating to alleged payment of kickbacks / bribes by M/s Finmeccanica, MoD had taken prompt action on newspaper reports with a view to seek factual information from the concerned authorities. However, since no concrete information to substantiate the allegations was forthcoming, no formal enquiry was then ordered.

On the report of the arrests of the Finmeccanica Chief, Mr Orsi who was earlier Chief Executive of M/s Agusta Westland and Mr Bruno Spagnoloni, Chief Executive of Agusta Westland Spa, MoD immediately asked the CBI on February 12, 2013 to conduct an inquiry into the matter. The CBI, after a visit of its team to Italy and on further examination of the documents available, has registered a Preliminary Enquiry (PE) on February 25, 2013 in this matter against eleven persons including five Indians and four firms which include two Indian firms.

Besides referring the matter to CBI, MoD on February 13, 2013 requested our Embassy in Rome for further factual report pertaining to arrest, nature of charges framed and any other relevant details, which in turn, took up the matter with the Judge for the preliminary investigation in Busto Arsizio. The Embassy on February 15, 2013 has forwarded the response of the Judge which states that 'the investigations are at a preliminary stage during which, as per Article 329 of the Code of Penal Procedure, all information are covered by secrecy'. It was also added in the response of the Judge that when the 'Secrecy' obligations are over, his Office would be glad to examine a new request from India.

Meanwhile, CBI investigation is progressing in India. In view of the present stage of investigation in this case, it would be early to opine on the extent to which this case is likely to affect other Defence deals in the pipeline.

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**LOK SABHA**

**STARRED QUESTION NO.554**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2013**

**VVIP Helicopter Deal**

\*554. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:  
SHRI HARISHCHANDRA CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received first set of documents from Italy regarding the alleged irregularities in the Augusta Westland Helicopter deal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has issued look-out notices for some former chiefs of the Indian Air Force in connection with the said deal;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the present status of investigation into the said deal and the steps taken / proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite the investigation?

**A N S W E R**

**MINISTER OF DEFENCE**

रक्षा मंत्री

(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(श्री ए. के. अन्टनी)

**(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK  
SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 554 FOR ANSWER ON 6.5.2013

The Government has received an initial set of documents from Italy pertaining to the alleged irregularities in the Agusta Westland deal which include, inter alia, copy of the search and seizure order issued by the Judge for the preliminary investigation in Busto Arsizio, Italy, copies of certain Contracts entered by M/s Agusta Westland Spa, Italy, a shareholder of M/s Agusta Westland International Ltd. UK, with various entities in Tunisia and India. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has issued Look Out Notices against a number of individuals in India including a former Chief of Indian Air Force in connection with the said case. The matter is still under investigation and the Ministry is following it up with the CBI for expediting investigation.

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**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.154**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 5<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2013**

**VVIP Helicopter Deal**

154. SHRIMATI ASHWAMEDH DEVI:  
SHRI BHUDEO CHOUDHARY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the CBI has sealed several accounts of the relatives of a former Chief of the Indian Air Force in the VVIP helicopters procurement deal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the amount of kickbacks allegedly deposited in these accounts so far along with the details thereof; and
- (d) the time by which the inquiry is likely to be completed?

MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
रक्षा मंत्री

**A N S W E R**

(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)  
(श्री ए. के. अन्टनी)

**(a) & (b):** Subsequent to registration of case No.RC 2172013A0003 on 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 against Air Chief Marshal (Retd.), S.P. Tyagi and Others, CBI had frozen several bank accounts of the relatives of Air Chief Marshal (Retd.) S.P. Tyagi, former Chief of Indian Air Force. However, subsequently all the bank accounts have been de-frozen as per a Court order, imposing certain conditions on the bank account holders.

**(c)** Investigation is still in progress on this aspect.

**(d)** Since the CBI investigations are still going on which includes the process of collecting evidence from abroad through Letter Rogatories, no definite time-limit can be set at this stage for conclusion of the investigations.

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## LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2668

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 26<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2013

## VIP Helicopter Deal

2668. DR. M. THAMBIDURAI:  
SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI:  
SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:  
SHRI ARJUN MEGHWAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government had made certain changes in the tender on the technical requirements for procurement of 12 Agusta Westland 101 helicopters for VVIP use;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the present status of the deal;
- (d) whether the Government has initiated any inquiry into the alleged irregularities in the said deal;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the present status of the investigation; and
- (f) the steps taken / proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite the investigation and punish the guilty?

MINISTER OF DEFENCE

रक्षा मंत्री

A N S W E R

(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(श्री ए. के. अन्टनी)

(a) & (b): After issuance of Request For Proposal (RFP) for the procurement of 12 VVIP / VIP Helicopters, certain changes, with the approval of the competent authority in terms of Defence Procurement Procedure-2006, have been made in technical requirements on the basis of the recommendation of the stakeholders to meet the requisite standards of operational safety and security.

(c) to (f): The contract for procurement of 12 VVIP / VIP helicopters was signed with M/s Agusta Westland, U.K. on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2010. Three helicopters have so far been supplied by the vendor. In view of allegations of irregularities in this procurement, Ministry of Defence has entrusted enquiry into the matter to CBI. The CBI, on conclusion of preliminary enquiry, registered a regular case on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2013 against 13 persons and 6 firms. The CBI investigation is in progress. Further operation of the Contract has been put on hold.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3221  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST, 2014

PROCUREMENT OF HELICOPTERS

3221. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has ordered an investigation into the alleged irregularities in the procurement of helicopters from M/s Agusta Westland; and  
(b) if so, the details and present status thereof?

MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
रक्षा मंत्री

A N S W E R

(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)  
(श्री अरुण जेटली)

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Based on the complaint dated 12.02.2013 of Ministry of Defence, CBI had registered a Preliminary Enquiry No. 2172013A0002 on 25.02.2013 against Air Chief Marshal (Retd.) SP Tyagi, the then Chief of Air Staff and 14 others (persons / firms). On conclusion of the said enquiry, a criminal case RC2172013A0003CBI/ACU-V/New Delhi was registered u/s 120-B IPC, 420-B IPC and sections 7, 8, 9, 12, 13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of PC Act, 1988 by CBI on 12.03.2013 against the then Air Chief Marshal SP Tyagi and 18 others (persons / firms). The case is presently under investigation by CBI.

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LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1094

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2013

**Commercial use of defence land**

1094. SHRI DHANANJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether shopping complexes and golf courses have come up on Defence land in recent years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the number of such complexes / establishments and the total Defence area covered therein;
- (c) whether appropriate rent (comparable to the overall market) is being collected from such establishments using Defence land;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the rent collected and the central fund to which this revenue goes; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
रक्षा मंत्री

(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)  
(श्री ए. के. अन्टनी)

(a) to (e): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

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**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6221**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2013**

**Training Centres of Armed Forces**

6221. SHRI N. PEETHAMBARA KURUP:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the training centres set up for the personnel of the three Services of the armed forces at present, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to set up some new training centres; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise including the locations identified in Gujarat?

**A N S W E R**

**MINISTER OF DEFENCE**  
रक्षा मंत्री

**(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)**  
(श्री ए. के. अन्टनी)

**(a) to (c): A statement is attached.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6221 FOR ANSWER ON 06.05.2013**

(a) The details of the training centres set up for the personnel of the three Services of the armed forces at present, State-wise are as under:-

States	Number of Training Centres		
	Army	Navy	Air Force
Andhra Pradesh	05	03	04
Assam	01	-	-
Bihar	01	-	-
Goa	01	05	-
Gujarat	01	01	-
Himachal Pradesh	02	-	-
Jammu & Kashmir	01	-	-
Jharkhand	01	-	-
Karnataka	09	-	11
Kerala	01	16	-
Madhya Pradesh	09	-	-
Maharashtra	16	07	-
Orissa	02	01	-
Rajasthan	02	-	-
Tamil Nadu	02	02	03
Uttarakhand	03	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	09	-	03
	01*	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>21</b>

\*Infantry Regimental Centres located in various States.

(b) & (c) There is a proposal to set up one Senior Non Commissioned Officer (SNCO) Academy at Air Force Station Tilpat (Haryana).

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LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2758

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 26<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2013

Orderlies for Defence Officers

2758. SHRI RUDRA MADHAB RAY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to discontinue the practice of appointment of orderlies to the officers in defence services;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details and number of Army Jawans of other security services being made to work as orderlies, service-wise;
- (d) whether such practice disheartens their feelings as they join the services to serve the nation but are made to work as domestic servants; and
- (e) if so, the corrective measures proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

A N S W E R  
MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
रक्षा मंत्री

(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)  
(श्री ए. के. अन्टनी)

(a) to (e): There is no practice of appointment of orderlies to officers in Air Force and Navy. However, Sahayaks are authorised to officers and JCOs in the Army as per their entitlement, while serving with formations functioning on war establishments. These Sahayaks are actually combatant soldiers who are entitled to regular pay, allowances and other benefits befitting to their rank in their hierarchy. As per recommendations of the Standing Committee on Defence, the system of Sahayaks in the Army has been taken up for review.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
 MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
 DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE  
 LOK SABHA  
 UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1316  
 TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2014

DEFENCE DEALS

1316. SHRI KAUSHALENDRA KUMAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
 be pleased to state:

- the details of violations of tender norms in defence deals with foreign companies reported during each of the last three years and the current year;
- the defence deals in which Central Vigilance Commission has recommended for vigilance inquiry during the said period for flouting the tender rules;
- the details of cases of corruption registered in aforesaid deals during the said period;
- the number of officials found guilty in such defence deals during the said period and action taken against them; and
- the remedial measures taken by the Government to check irregularities in defence deals?

MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
 रक्षा मंत्री

A N S W E R

(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)  
 (श्री अरुण जेटली)

**(a) to (e):** Well defined procedures with adequate checks and balances are in vogue for capital and revenue procurements, under the Defence Procurement Procedure and the Defence Procurement Manual, respectively. The same are followed scrupulously.

As and when complaints alleging irregularities / violations of procurement procedures are received from any source, the same are examined and after due scrutiny, appropriate action is taken. Wherever necessary, the case is referred to the appropriate agency for further investigation.

During the last three years and in the current year, there are nine cases relating to alleged irregularities in defence purchases, which the Central Vigilance Commission has referred for inquiry. During this period, the CBI has taken up inquiry / investigation in five cases. No official of the Ministry has been found guilty during the aforesaid period.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2455  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2014

PAYMENT OF SERVICE CHARGES

2455. SHRI CH. MALLA REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री  
be pleased to state:

- whether the service charges demanded by Secunderabad Cantonment Board on account of Land and buildings held by Army are outstanding to a large extent;
- whether the Secunderabad Cantonment Board has requested the Government for payment of service charges on account of Land and buildings held by Army;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the action taken by the Government in this regard?

MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
रक्षा मंत्री

A N S W E R

(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)  
(श्री अरुण जेटली)

(a) to (d): Director General of Defence Estate (DGDE) under whose administrative control Cantonment Boards operate, has reported that the total demand of service charges by Secunderabad Cantonment Board on account of Lands and buildings held by Army as on 01.04.2014, is Rs. 367.86 Crore. Out of this amount the demand for the current financial year 2014-15 is Rs. 50.39 Crore. DGDE has taken up the issue of unpaid service charges pertaining to various cantonments including Secunderabad Cantonment, with the Army Head Quarters (AHQ) directly and through the Ministry of Defence. Government has held consultation with the concerned stake holders to resolve the issue.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4493  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2014

CASES OF IRREGULARITIES IN DEFENCE SECTOR

4493. SHRI HUKUMDEV NARAYAN YADAV;  
SHRI JAGDAMBIKA PAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE रक्षा मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the detail of cases of alleged irregularities / corruption relating to the defence sector, particularly in Armed forces registered during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the present status of each case;
- (c) the steps taken / being taken by the Government for expeditious disposal of investigation in the cases of alleged irregularities / corruption relating to defence sector; and
- (d) the other measures taken / being taken by the Government to check irregularities / corruption in defence sector during the said period and the success achieved as a result thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF DEFENCE  
रक्षा मंत्री

(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)  
(श्री अरुण जेटली)

**(a) & (b):** During the last three years and upto 30<sup>th</sup> June of the current year, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered cases of alleged irregularities / corruption as per the following break-up:-

Year	No. of regular cases	No. of preliminary enquiries	Total
2011	18	05	23
2012	30	08	38
2013	21	08	29
2014 (upto 30.06.2014)	13	03	16
	82	24	106

.....2/-

Out of the above 106 cases, 07 cases have been closed. The remaining cases are in various stages of inquiry, investigation and trial etc.

(c) & (d): Well defined procedures with adequate checks and balances, are prescribed in Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) for capital procurement and in Defence Procurement Manual (DPM) for revenue procurement. The existing procedures contain stringent provisions aimed at ensuring higher degree of probity, public accountability and transparency. Whenever any irregularity / corruption in defence procurement comes to light, the case is instantaneously handed over to Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for thorough investigations.

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## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

## MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

## LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO 285

ANSWERED ON 12.12.2014

## RECRUITMENT IN DEFENCE FORCES

285 . Chaudhary Shri Babulal

Hansdak Shri Vijay Kumar

Will the Minister of DEFENCE

be pleased to state:-

- (a) the criteria for recruitment of defence personnel including technical / non- technical and medical officers along with the languages prescribed for written examination and interview;
- (b) whether the recruitment of defence personnel below Officers rank in the Defence Forces is done on the basis of recruitable male population of a particular State and if so, the details and the justification thereof;
- (c) whether the policy has adversely impacted availability of the competent personnel in the Defence Forces and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the said policy discriminates the candidates from other States who are more suitable for recruitment in the Defence Forces; and
- (e) If so, the details thereof and the corrective measures taken / to be taken by the Government in this regard?

## ANSWER

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 285 FOR ANSWER ON 12.12.2014

(a) Recruitment in the Armed Forces, including technical / non-technical and medical officers, is based on merit and is equally open to every citizen of the country without any discrimination / reservation on the basis of caste, creed, tribe or religion etc., provided the candidate meets the laid down age, physical, medical and educational criteria.

Both English and Hindi languages are used in the applicable selection process for most of the entries into the Armed Forces. However, in the case of Air Force Common Admission Test (AFCAT), the written examination is in English but candidates can take the interview either in English or Hindi.

(b) In case of Army and Navy, recruitment of defence personnel below officers rank from different States is being done in proportion to the Recruitable Male Population (RMP) of those States. A RMP factor for each State is computed in the case of Army and a Naval Recruitment Index (NRI) is computed for each State in the case of Navy. In case of Air Force and Armed Forces Medical Services, recruitment is not based on RMP.

(c) Since the criteria for recruitment is merit and candidates have to meet laid down age, physical, medical and educational criteria, the policy has no adverse impact on the availability of competent personnel in the Defence Forces.

(d) & (e): As RMP policy give fair and equitable representation to all States, there is no discrimination among States.

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(Q.285)

HON. SPEAKER: Shri Laxmi Narayan Yadav

श्री लक्ष्मी नारायण यादव : अध्यक्ष महोदया, भारत की विशाल सेना में सभी वर्गों और क्षेत्रों का प्रतिनिधित्व समुचित रूप से होना चाहिए, परन्तु मैं देखता हूँ और सदन भी इससे सहमत होगा कि पिछड़े प्रदेशों के लोगों को पर्याप्त प्रतिनिधित्व नहीं मिला। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या वे इस दिशा में कोई ध्यान देंगे? जैसे मध्य प्रदेश के बहुत कम नौजवान सेना में पाये जाते हैं। क्या मंत्री जी इस दिशा में कोई विशेष ध्यान देंगे, ताकि वहाँ का प्रतिनिधित्व भी पर्याप्त हो सके?

श्री मनोहर पर्रिकर : अध्यक्ष महोदया, सेना में जो जवान भर्ती होते हैं, उनके लिए रिक्रूटबल मेल पापुलेशन, आरएमपी हर स्टेट के लिए लगाया जाता है। स्टेट में जो पापुलेशन रहती है, उस हिसाब से यह भर्ती होती है। इसमें रिक्रूटबल मेल पापुलेशन जितनी एलॉट हुई है, अगर उतनी भर्ती नहीं हुई तो हर छः महीने में जो कैम्प लगते हैं, उसमें भर्ती की डेफीशेंसी भर ली जाती है। अगर उसके बाद भी कुछ रह जाता है तो उसे अगले दो वर्ष के साइकल में एक्सटेंड किया जा सकता है। ऐसा कहीं नहीं पाया गया कि कोटा पूरा नहीं हुआ। यह कोटा 95 से 96 प्रतिशत तक भर जाता है। कई जगह इसके लिए ज्यादा डिमांड है, इसलिए वहाँ कोटा रहने की संभावना नहीं है। वैसे यह कोटा पापुलेशन के हिसाब से है। पूरे देश के पापुलेशन के हिसाब से साधारणतया 10 परसेंट आरएमपी के लिए फिगर ली होती है और वह पापुलेशन के बेस पर सबके लिए समान होता है।

DR. SHASHI THAROOR : Madam Speaker, the issue of recruitment and the shortage of officers in our country is now widely known. But the Army appears to be addressing this by extending the duration of Short Service Commissions in a way, that is doing an injustice to the officers concerned. In the old days, you would have a five-year commission. You would then leave and you would still be in the prime of your life; you would be able to find a job and move on. Today, they are making these officers stay for 10 years, 11 years, even 14 years. These are people who have no pension; they have no benefits. They leave the Army late and, as a result, they are not in a position thereafter to actually resume life in the civilian sector.

I would like the Defence Minister to explain what the policy is now on Short Service Commissions. I would like to know whether the Government has begun extending these unobtrusively at the expense of the civil rights of the officers concerned. If they are going to do so, whether it would not be fairer to give them all the benefits that a normal officer would be entitled to, pensions included. Thank you, Madam, Speaker.

SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR: Madam, I entirely agree with the hon. Member. Whatever was the original concept of the Short Service Commission is being totally put upside down by extending it to 14 years. In fact, I had a discussion on this issue. We are trying to address this issue very shortly. We will definitely take care of this concept. There was 17 per cent shortage of officers by the year 2012. As of now, we are recruiting more officers. Every year, we are addressing one per cent. So, we are coming down by one per cent every year. I expect that by another ten years, we should be able to ultimately fill up the vacant posts.

As far as the Short Service Commission is concerned, I will definitely address this issue because I am also concerned with the same issue. I have asked for more details. There is some reasoning given by them. Give me some time. I think, in a couple of months, I should be able to address this issue. I understand your concern. The same concern was expressed by me. You are virtually suggesting to convert them into a regular Commission by taking it to 14 years. The original idea was different.

श्री दीपेन्द्र सिंह हुड्डा : माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि सेनाओं में रिफ्रूटेबल मेल पापुलेशन फार्मुले के आधार पर भर्ती होती है और हर प्रदेश को प्रतिनिधित्व मिलता है। पहले कुछ पारंपरिक प्रदेश थे, जैसे उत्तराखंड, पंजाब, हरियाणा, नार्थ-ईस्ट प्रदेश सेना में ज्यादा सैनिक भर्ती के लिए देते थे। आज भी सेना में 10 से 12 प्रतिशत सैनिक हरियाणा से हैं। लेकिन अब यह प्रतिशत कम हो रहा है। कई प्रदेशों के रिक्त स्थान रह जाते हैं, सेना में 12000 से ज्यादा रिक्त स्थान हैं। क्या सरकार इस पर गंभीरता से विचार करेगी कि जो रिक्त स्थान रह जाते हैं, उसे भरने के लिए इन प्रदेशों की तरफ ध्यान दे, क्योंकि आज भी ये प्रदेश युवा सेना में सेवाएं देने के लिए तत्पर हैं?

12.12.2014

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श्री मनोहर पर्रिकर: माननीय अध्यक्ष जी, रिक्त स्थान ज्यादा नहीं रहते हैं। रिक्त स्थान जो रहते हैं, उसे उसी प्रदेश के लिए दो वर्ग के राउंड में लेते हैं। If the hon. Member has any suggestion, he can send it to me. The issue raised by him is worth considering but he will have to come out with some reasonable solutions.

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Extracts from Manual of Parliamentary Procedures in the Govt. of India, M/o Parliamentary Affairs, New Delhi.

Chapter 8

**Assurances**

8.1 During the course of reply given to a question or a discussion, if a Minister gives an undertaking which involves further action on the part of the Government in reporting back to the House, it is called an 'assurance'. Standard list of such expressions which normally constitute assurances as approved by the Committee on Government Assurances (CGA) of the respective House, is given at Annex-3. As assurances are required to be implemented within a specified time limit, care should be taken by all concerned while drafting replies to the questions to restrict the use of these expressions only to those occasions when it is clearly intended to give an assurance on the floor of the House.

Definition

8.2 An assurance given in either House is required to be fulfilled within a period of three months from the date of the assurance. This limit has to be strictly followed.

Time limit for fulfilling an assurance

8.3 To ensure early fulfillment of assurances, entire process beginning from culling out of assurances from the proceedings of the House to the submission of Implementation Report including extension of time, dropping and transfer of assurances have been automated through a Software Application named "Online Assurances Monitoring System" (OAMS). Requests for extension of time, dropping or transfer of assurances and submission of Implementation Report through any other offline mode shall not be entertained under any circumstances.

Online Assurances Monitoring System (OAMS)

Calling out of  
Assurances

**8.4** When an assurance is given by a Minister or, when the Presiding Officer, directs the Government to furnish information to the House, it is extracted by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, from the relevant proceedings and communicated to the Department concerned online through 'OAMS' normally within 20 working days of the date on which it is given on the floor of the House.

Deletion from the  
list of assurances

**8.5** If the administrative Ministry/Department has any objection to treating such a statement as an assurance or finds that it would not be in the public interest to fulfill it, it may upload its request at 'OAMS' within a week of treating such statement as assurance for getting it deleted from the list of assurances. Such action will require prior approval of the Minister concerned and this fact should be clearly indicated in their communication containing the request. If such a request is made towards the end of stipulated period of three months, then it should invariably be accompanied with a request of extension of time. The department should continue to seek extension of time till the decision of the Committee on Government Assurances is conveyed through 'OAMS'. Requests received through offline mode shall not be entertained by either Rajya Sabha/Lok Sabha Secretariat or Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.

Extension of time  
for fulfilling an  
assurance

**8.6** If the Department finds that it is not possible to fulfill the assurance within the stipulated period of three months or within the period of extension already granted, it may seek further extension of time as soon as the need for such extension becomes apparent, indicating the reasons for delay and the probable additional time required alongwith details of action taken/progress made in the matter. All such request should be submitted at 'OAMS' for decision by CGA thereon with the approval of the concerned Minister.

Registers of  
Assurances

**8.7.1** The particulars of every assurance will be entered by the Parliament Unit of the Ministry/Department concerned in a register as at Annex 4 after which the assurance will be passed on to the concerned section

8.7.2 Even ahead of the receipt of communication from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs through 'OAMS' the section concerned should take prompt action to fulfill such assurances and keep a watch thereon in a register as at Annex 5.

8.7.3 The registers referred to in paras 8.7.1 and 8.7.2 will be maintained separately for the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha assurances, entries therein being made session wise.

The Section Officer in charge of the concerned section will:

Role of Section  
Officer and Branch  
Officer

- (a) scrutinize the registers once a week;
- (b) ensure that necessary follow-up action is taken without any delay whatsoever;
- (c) submit the registers to the branch officer every fortnight if the House concerned is in session and once a month otherwise, drawing his special attention to assurances which are not likely to be implemented within the period of three months; and
- (d) review of pending assurances should be undertaken periodically at the highest level in order to minimize the delay in implementing the assurances.

8.8 The branch officer will likewise keep his higher officer and Minister informed of the progress made in the implementation of assurances, drawing their special attention to the causes of delay.

8.9.1 Every effort should be made to fulfill the assurance within the prescribed period. In case only part of the information is available and collection of the remaining information would involve considerable time, an Implementation Report(IR) containing the available information should be uploaded at 'OAMS' in part fulfillment of the assurance, within the prescribed time limit. However, efforts should continue to be made for expeditious collection of the remaining information for complete implementation of the assurance at the earliest.

Procedure for  
fulfilment of an  
assurance

**8.9.2** Information to be furnished in partial or complete fulfillment of an assurance should be approved by the Minister concerned before it is uploaded at 'OAMS' in both English and Hindi versions in the prescribed pro forma as at Annex-6 , together with its enclosures. After online submission of the Report for fulfillment of the assurance partial or complete as the case may be, four hard copies each in Hindi and English version with one copy of each version duly authenticated by the officer concerned should be sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs for laying until e-laying is adopted by the concerned House.

**8.9.3** The Implementation Report should be submitted at 'OAMS' only. Implementation Report sent by any other mode or sent to Rajya Sabha/Lok Sabha Secretariat directly, will not be considered for laying.

Laying of the  
Implementation  
Report on the Table  
of the House

**8.10** The Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, after scrutiny of the Implementation Report, will arrange to lay it on the Table of the House concerned. A copy of the Implementation Report, as laid on the Table, will be forwarded by Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs to the member(s) concerned. Details of laying of Implementation Report submitted by the Ministry/Department concerned would be made available by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs at 'OAMS'. The Parliament Unit of the Ministry/Department concerned and the concerned section will, on the basis of information available at 'OAMS', update their records.

Obligation to lay a  
paper on the Table  
of the House vis-à-  
vis assurance on the  
same subject

**8.11** Where there is an obligation to lay any paper (rule/order/notification, etc.)<sup>4</sup> on the Table of the House and for which an assurance has also been given, it will be laid on the Table, in the first instance, in fulfillment of the obligation, independent of the assurance given. After this, a formal report regarding implementation of the assurance indicating the date on which the paper was laid on the Table will be submitted at 'OAMS' in the prescribed pro forma (Annex-6) in the manner already described in para 8.9.2

8.12 Each House of Parliament has a Committee on Government Assurances nominated by the Chairman/Speaker. It scrutinizes the Implementation Reports and the time taken in the fulfillment of Government Assurances and focuses attention on the delays and other significant aspects, if any, pertaining to them. Instructions issued by Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs from time to time as available on 'OAMS' are to be followed strictly.

Committees  
on Government  
Assurances  
RSR 211-A  
LSR 323, 324

8.13 The Ministries/Departments will, in consultation with the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, scrutinize the reports of these two Committees for remedial action wherever called for.

Reports of the  
Committees on  
Government  
Assurances

8.14 On dissolution of the Lok Sabha, the pending assurances do not lapse. All assurances, promises or undertakings pending implementation are scrutinized by the new Committee on Government Assurances for selection of such of them as are of considerable public importance. The Committee then submits a report to the Lok Sabha with specific recommendations regarding the assurances to be dropped or retained for implementation by the Government.

Effect on assurances  
on dissolution of  
the Lok Sabha



**MINUTES**

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES  
(2019-2020)  
(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)  
THIRTEENTH SITTING  
(11.08.2020)

The Committee sat from 1100 hours to 1215 hours in Committee Room "C", Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

Shri Rajendra Agrawal - **Chairperson**

**MEMBERS**

2. Shri Nihal Chand Chauhan
3. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
4. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
5. Shri Ashok Mahadeorao Nete
6. Shri Santosh Pandey
7. Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri Pawan Kumar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Lovekesh Kumar Sharma - Director
3. Shri S.L. Singh - Deputy Secretary

**WITNESSES**

**Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence)**

1. General Bipin Rawat - CDS and Secretary, DMA
2. Dr. Ajay Kumar - Defence Secretary
3. Lt. Gen. S.K. Saini - Vice Chief of the Army Staff
4. Mrs. Deepa Bajwa - Director General Defence Estates
5. Shri Apurva Chandra - Special Secretary and Director General (Acq)

**Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs**

1. Shri J.P.P. Kujur - Assistant Section Officer

XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX
XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX
XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX

4. Thereafter, the representatives of the Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence) and the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs were ushered in. Welcoming the witnesses to the sitting of the Committee, the Chairperson impressed upon them not to disclose the deliberations of the Committee to any outsider. The Committee then took oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Defence

(Department of Defence) regarding 22 (**Enclosure**) pending Assurances. The Chairperson asked the Secretary to give an overview of the pending Assurances of the Ministry and also enquired about the internal mechanism and system of monitoring and reviewing the implementation of pending Assurances in the Ministry.

5. The Defence Secretary, accordingly briefed the Committee on the above issues. The Chairperson asked the representatives of the Ministry to furnish the Minutes of their review meetings for monitoring of pending Assurances.

6. The Chairperson and Members thereafter raised various queries and sought certain clarifications on the 22 pending Assurances taken up for the day. The witnesses responded to these queries and also provided clarifications. In view of the explanations submitted by the representatives of the Ministry during the course of oral evidence, the Committee acceded to the request of the Ministry to drop the six Assurances mentioned at Sl.Nos. 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 17. As some queries required detailed reply and inputs from various quarters, the Chairperson asked the witnesses to furnish written replies on the same in due course.

7. The evidence was completed.

8. The Chairperson thanked the witnesses for deposing before the Committee and furnishing the available information on the queries raised and clarifications sought by them.

9. The witnesses, then, withdrew.

10. A verbatim record of the proceedings has been kept.

*The Committee then adjourned.*

**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES (2019-2020) LOK SABHA**  
**Statement of pending Assurances pertaining to the Ministry of Defence**  
**(Department of Defence) discussed during oral evidence held on 11.08.2020**

Sl.No.	SQ/USQ No. dated	Subject
1	USQ No. 1332 dated 15-07-2004	Appointment of Chief of Defence Staff
2	USQ No. 1734 dated 04-08-2005	Institution of CDS
3	SQ No. 258 dated 10-08-2006	Appointment of Chief of Defence Staff
4	USQ No. 302 dated 20-10-2008	Chief of Defence Staff
5	USQ No. 6154 dated 14-05-2012	Kargil Review Committee
6	USQ No. 3545 dated 03-09-2012	Implementation of KRC Report
7	USQ No. 3290 dated 18-03-2013	Chief of Defence Staff
8	USQ No. 6274 dated 06-05-2013	Naresh Chandra Task Force
9	SQ No. 168 dated 19-08-2013	Chief of Defence Staff
10	USQ No. 645 dated 26-11-2012	Coast Guard Airport
11	SQ No. 81 dated 04-03-2013	VVIP Helicopters Deal
12	SQ No. 554 dated 06-05-2013	VVIP Helicopter Deal
13	USQ No. 154 dated 05-08-2013	VVIP Helicopter Deal
14	USQ No. 2668 dated 26-08-2013	VIP Helicopter Deal
15	USQ No. 3221 dated 01-08-2014	Procurement of Helicopters
* 16	USQ No. 1094 dated 04-03-2013	Commercial Use of Defence Land
17	USQ No. 6221 dated 06-05-2013	Training Centres of Armed Forces
18	USQ No. 2758 dated 26-08-2013	Orderlies for Defence Officers
* 19	USQ No. 1316 dated 18-07-2014	Defence Deals
20	USQ No. 2455 dated 25-07-2014	Payment of Service Charges
* 21	USQ No. 4493 dated 08-08-2014	Cases of Irregularities in Defence Sector
22	SQ No. 285 dated 12-12-2014 (Supplementary by Dr. Shashi Tharoor, M.P.)	Recruitment in Defence Forces

\* Implementation Reports laid on 11.2.2021.



**MINUTES**

**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES**  
**(2020-2021)**  
**(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)**  
**FIRST SITTING**  
**(03.12.2020)**

The Committee sat from 1100 hours to 1215 hours in Committee Room 'B', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

**PRESENT**

Shri Rajendra Agrawal - **Chairperson**

**MEMBERS**

2. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
3. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
4. Shri Santosh Pandey
5. Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri Pawan Kumar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Lovekesh Kumar Sharma - Director
3. Shri S.L. Singh - Deputy Secretary

**WITNESSES**

**XXXXX      XXXXX      XXXXX      XXXXX      XXXXX      XXXXX**

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the sitting of the Committee and apprised them that the sitting has been convened to (i) chalk out future programme of the Committee; (ii) consider and adopt 14 draft Reports; (iii) consider 25 Memoranda containing requests received from various Ministries/Departments for dropping or otherwise of 61 pending Assurances; and (iv) take oral evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Civil Aviation regarding pending Assurances.

2. Thereafter, the Committee took up for consideration and adoption the following 14 Draft Reports:-

- (i) Draft Seventeenth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)';
- (ii) Draft Eighteenth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)';



- (iii) Draft Nineteenth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Power';
- (iv) Draft Twentieth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (Department of Sports)';
- (v) Draft Twenty-First Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)';
- (vi) Draft Twenty-Second Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)';
- (vii) Draft Twenty-Third Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Fertilizers)';
- (viii) Draft Twenty-Fourth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Review of Pending Assurances Pertaining to the Ministry of Defence (Department of Defence)';
- (ix) Draft Twenty-Fifth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)';
- (x) Draft Twenty-Sixth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)';
- (xi) Draft Twenty-Seventh Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)';
- (xii) Draft Twenty-Eighth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)';
- (xiii) Draft Twenty-Ninth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Acceded to)'; and
- (xiv) Draft Thirtieth Report (17th Lok Sabha) regarding 'Requests for Dropping of Assurances (Not Acceded to)'.

3. The Committee adopted all the above mentioned 14 Draft Reports without any amendment and authorized the Chairperson to present the Reports at a later date.

XXXXX      XXXXX      XXXXX      XXXXX      XXXXX      XXXXX  
 XXXXX      XXXXX      XXXXX      XXXXX      XXXXX      XXXXX

*The Committee then adjourned.*



**COMPOSITION OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT ASSURANCES\*  
(2019 - 2020)**

**SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL** - Chairperson

**MEMBERS**

2. Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay
3. Shri Nihal Chand Chauhan
4. Shri Gaurav Gogoi
5. Shri Nalin Kumar Kateel
6. Shri Ramesh Chander Kaushik
7. Shri Kaushalendra Kumar
8. Shri Ashok Mahadeorao Nete
9. Shri Santosh Pandey
10. Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras
11. Shri Parbatbhai Savabhai Patel
12. Shri M.K. Raghavan
13. Shri Chandra Sekhar Sahu
14. Dr. Bharatiben Dhirubhai Shyal
15. Smt. Supriya Sule

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri Pawan Kumar - Joint Secretary
2. Shri Lovekesh Kumar Sharma - Director
3. Shri S. L. Singh - Deputy Secretary

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\* The Committee was constituted w.e.f. 09 October, 2019 *vide* Para No. 609 of Lok Sabha Bulletin Part-II dated 09 October, 2019

