

Indian made Mig Provided to Indian Air Force

586 SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) whether the Indian Air Force has been provided with any Indian made MIG plane and

(b) if so how many such planes have been provided to Indian Air Force so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) (a) Yes Sir

(b) It is not in public interest to disclose the information

Licences to Private Houses for Manufacturing of Small Arms

587 SHRI R S PANDEY Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state

(a) whether a large number of private business houses are seeking licences from the Government to manufacture cartridges and other small arms for civil and military consumption,

(b) if so, Government's policy in this regard, and

(c) whether Government would encourage setting up such units in the country to meet defence needs of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (DEFENCE PRODUCTION) IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) (a) Yes Sir. Quite a number of applications are being received from private persons and parties for the grant of licences to manufacture fire-arms and ammunition

(b) The Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 does not permit the production of arms and ammunition in the private sector. However, to meet the requirements of the Defence Services some non-lethal equipments, parts and components of lethal and non-lethal items are procured from the private sector

(c) Does not arise

Pak Move to Mobilise International Opinion for Release of P.O.Ws in India

588 SHRI R S PANDEY Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that Pakistan are making efforts to mobilise international opinion and also move the U N O against India to secure early release of Pakistan Prisoners of War in Indian custody,

(b) if so the reaction of Government thereto and

(c) the steps taken to counter such efforts by Pakistan abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) Government have seen reports to this effect

(b) India has already repatriated to Pakistan the POWs of the Western sector. Since the Eastern sector POWs had surrendered to the Joint Command of India and Bangladesh forces, the association and participation of Bangladesh in talks on the repatriation of these POWs is essential. Pakistan Government is itself responsible for the delay in the commencement of talks between the three countries by failing to create the conditions under which Bangladesh can participate in such talks on a footing of sovereign equality

(c) Government have taken necessary action to inform International opinion of the correct position.