

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2117

ANSWERED ON:09.03.2006

SELLING OF ISLANDER AIRCRAFT

Meghwal Shri Kailash;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao;Yadav Shri Kailash Nath Singh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has decided to sell Islander aircraft of Indian Navy to Myanmar;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether U.K. has registered its objection on selling these aircraft to Myanmar by India;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) to (e): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2117 FOR ANSWER ON 9.3.2006

The Government of Myanmar has requested for transfer of Islander aircraft from India for search and rescue operations, medical evacuation and relief operations in the island territories of Myanmar. The Government of India has not taken a final decision on this request so far. The British High Commission had expressed concern over the proposed transfer of aircraft to Myanmar as the British Government has an arms embargo in place against Myanmar. The Indian viewpoint that these aircraft are non-military aircraft and are meant for humanitarian purposes like medical evacuation, airlift of relief supplies and search and rescue operations has been conveyed to the British Government.