

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6968
ANSWERED ON:08.05.2015
PROCUREMENT OF HELICOPTERS
Ramachandran Shri Krishnan Narayanasamy;Singh Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status with regard to investigation into the alleged irregularities in the procurement of helicopters from M/s Agusta Westland;
- (b) whether the investigation into the matter has extended to United States, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates and such other countries;
- (c) if so, the details and the findings thereof; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government to expedite the investigation and punish the guilty for the alleged irregularities?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) to (d): The FIR in the regular case registered by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in the VVIP / VIP procurement case, is pending in the Court of Special Judge, Patiala House Court, New Delhi and the case is under investigation.

The investigation by CBI in India is at an advanced stage. During investigation, Letters Rogatory as per the procedure have been sent by CBI to eight countries namely Italy, Tunisia, Mauritius in 2013 and UAE, UK, Switzerland, Singapore and British Virgin Island in 2014. The authorities in UAE have sought further information. Further, as desired by the Mauritius authorities, fresh LR is being sent to Mauritius. LR execution report is awaited from all the above mentioned countries.

Directorate of Enforcement has also registered a case under Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 and investigations are underway. During the course of investigation, one of the accused was arrested, who was later released on bail. Directorate of Enforcement has also issued two provisional attachment orders attaching the properties valued at Rs.4.82 crore approximately out of the proceeds of crime.