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Title: Secretary-General reported a message from Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha adopted a motion to constitute a Joint Committee of the two houses to inquire into the allegations of payment of bribes in the acquisition of VVIP Helicopters by the Ministry of Defence from M/s Augusta Westland and the role of alleged middle men in the transaction.

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Madam Speaker, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

'I am directed to inform that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Wednesday, the 27th February, 2013 adopted the following motion:-

"That a Joint Committee of both the Houses consisting of 30 Members, 10 Members from Rajya Sabha and 20 Members from Lok Sabha, be appointed to inquire into the allegations of payment of bribes in the acquisition of VVIP Helicopters by the Ministry of Defence from M/s. Agusta Westland and the role of alleged middlemen in the transaction.

2. That the Committee shall have 10 Members of the Rajya Sabha as its Members :â€"

- (1) Shrimati Renuka Chowdhury
- (2) Shri Birender Singh
- (3) Shri Jesudasu Seelam
- (4) Dr. Yogendra P. Trivedi
- (5) Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav
- (6) Shri Satish Chandra Misra
- (7) Shri T.K. Rangarajan

Remaining three names will be filled later by the House.

3. That the Chairman, Rajya Sabha will nominate one of the Members of the Committee to be its Chairman.

4. That the Committee shall start functioning from the day it is duly constituted.

5. That the Committee shall be provided all assistance by the Government and other agencies.

6. That in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee, the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee.

7. That the Joint Committee shall make a report to this House within three months of its first sitting.

8. That in other respects, the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to the Select Committee shall apply with such variations and modifications as the Chairman, Rajya Sabha may make.

9. That this House recommends to the Lok Sabha that the Lok Sabha do join the Committee and communicate to this House the names of 20 Members appointed from amongst the Members of the Lok Sabha to the Committee as mentioned above."

2. I am to request that concurrence of Lok Sabha for the said motion, and also the names of the Members of Lok Sabha appointed to the Joint Committee, may be communicated to this House.'

â€ (Interruptions)