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**Press Information Bureau  
Government of India  
Ministry of Defence**

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**Rafale Fighter Plane Deal with France**

As per the India-France Joint Statement issued by the two countries during the Prime Minister's visit to France, Government of India conveyed to the Government of France that in view of the critical operational necessity for Multirole Combat Aircraft for Indian Air Force (IAF), Government of India would like to acquire 36 Rafale jets in fly-away condition as quickly as possible. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Indian and French Government has also been signed on January 25, 2016 in this regard. Negotiations with the French side are currently on.

This information was given by Defence Minister Shri Manohar Parrikar in a written reply to Shri Naresh Agrawal in Rajya Sabha today.

NAMPI/RAJ