



## **BORDER SECURITY FORCE**

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NEW DELHI, 09<sup>th</sup> Apr 2015

### **PRESS RELEASE**

## **HON'BLE UNION MINISTER OF STATE FOR HOME AFFAIRS** **SHRI KIREN RIJIJU INDUCTED TWO Mi – 17 V5 HELICOPTERS** **INTO THE SERVICE OF BORDER SECURITY FORCE**

India's First Line of Defence, The Border Security Force (BSF) which has been safeguarding the India-Pakistan and India-Bangladesh borders since 1965 inducted two new advanced Mi – 17 V5 helicopters which will enhance the strength of BSF's Air Wing. The Air Wing is tasked to carry air support missions for BSF troops along the borders and in India's hinterland during Anti-Naxal operations.

The helicopters were inducted and bought into service by The Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Kiren Rijiju on April 09<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 1500 Hrs at Safdarjung Airport, BSF Air Wing, Hanger No-1, New Delhi. During the ceremony, Shri D K Pathak, IPS, Director General Border Security Force and senior officials of BSF were also present.

During his speech, Hon'ble Union Home Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Kiren Rijiju congratulated Shri D K Pathak, IPS, Director General BSF and all personnel of BSF Air Wing and also praised BSF. He also lauded that BSF Air Wing is poised for a bright future and will respond to every challenge in the most professional manner.

During the ceremony, Hon'ble Union Home Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Kiren Rijiju alongwith Shri D K Pathak, IPS, Director General, BSF inspected the two Mi-17 V5 Helicopters.

After completion of the ceremony, Shri D K Pathak, IPS, Director General Border Security Force honoured the Hon'ble Union Home Minister of State for Home Affairs Shri Kiren Rijiju by presenting a memento.

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The Russian made Mi- 17 V5 choppers will boost the flying capability of BSF, they will be deployed for a variety of internal security related tasks in some of the most arduous and inhospitable conditions at various locations. The choppers are armed with the latest in avionics and night flying capabilities, both of which were longstanding BSF requirement for undertaking operations in Naxal areas.

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