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## Delivery of 63 Mi-17V-5 helicopters to Afghan Air Force completed

October 31, 2014



The delivery of 63 Mi-17V-5 helicopters to Afghan Air Force was completed by the Russian state arms exporter Rosoboronexport with the supply of final helicopters on 29th October.

Russia's Federal Service for Military-Technical Cooperation (FSMTC) announced the conclusion of the deal on Thursday.

The helicopters were delivered under a contract signed between the US Department of Defense and the Rosoboronexport firm.

A statement released by FSMTC said it is ready to negotiate future deliveries of Mi-17 to Afghanistan helicopters and provide after-sales support for earlier shipped equipment.

The delivery of the helicopters could play a crucial role to boost the capabilities of the Afghan Air Force amid withdrawal of the coalition forces from the country.

Afghanistan will also receive additional 12 helicopters from United States. According to defense officials, the delivery of helicopters is part of an agreement between the United States and the Ministry of Defense (MoD) to rebuild and make the air force self-sufficient by the end of 2016 and beginning of 2017.

The officials also added that the United States will also deliver combat aircraft to Afghan Air Force which will include A-29 Super Tucano.

The A-29 Super Tucano is a robust, relatively powerful turboprop aircraft developed from the Shorts/Embraer Tucano training aircraft. The A-29s mission can include close air support (CAS) and intelligence, surveillance, counter-insurgency (COIN) and reconnaissance.