

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 371
TO BE ANSWERED ON 06th February, 2023

OVERALL TREND IN DEFENCE SPENDING

371 SHRI DEEPENDER SINGH HOODA:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the overall trend in defence spending is decreasing and the defence expenditure as a proportion of Government expenditure has been falling steadily since 2014-15;
- (b) if so, the reasons for decrease in defence expenditure;
- (c) if not, the defence expenditure as a proportion of the total Government expenditure in each of the last five financial years including the current FY 2022-23; and
- (d) the complete details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI AJAY BHATT)

(a) to (d): Details of Defence Expenditure as a percentage of the Government Expenditure from Financial Year 2014-15 to 2022-23 are tabulated below: -

(Rs. In Crore)

Year	Defence Expenditure (Gross)	Central Government Expenditure	Defence Expenditure as a percentage of Central Government Expenditure
2014-15 (Actual)	3,17,207	16,63,673	19.07
2015-16 (Actual)	3,27,096	17,90,783	18.27
2016-17 (Actual)	3,89,614	19,75,194	19.73
2017-18 (Actual)	4,17,242	21,41,973	19.48
2018-19 (Actual)	4,42,683	23,15,113	19.12
2019-20 (Actual)	4,88,795	26,86,330	18.20
2020-21 (Actual)	5,23,330	35,09,836	14.91
2021-22 (RE)	5,35,508	37,70,000	14.20
2022-23 (BE)	5,55,484	39,44,909	14.08

It is seen from above data that Defence Expenditure as a percentage of Central Government Expenditure may appear to be decreasing due to increasing trend in the growth of Central Government Expenditure. However, Defence Expenditure is increasing in absolute terms, implying higher spending.
