

PRIORITY-VIII

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO.228
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03.01.2018**

DIPLOMACY TO BOOST DEFENCE INDIGENISATION

***228. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is planning to take any specific steps using diplomacy as a tool to boost opportunities for India's defence indigenisation;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (c) whether any step is being taken by the Government to strengthen partnerships such as India-Australia-Japan dialogue and India-US-Japan initiative aimed at enhancing security concerns of India with countries that share similar concerns; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER
THE MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ)**

- (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 228 REGARDING “DIPLOMACY TO BOOST DEFENCE INDIGENISATION” FOR ANSWER ON 03.01.2018

Government is actively engaged in a range of bilateral defence cooperation initiatives towards the objective of defence indigenisation. To this effect, Government has entered into fresh tie-ups as well as intensified ongoing cooperation with several international partners. The cooperation is envisaged in terms of, inter alia, joint manufacture, co-production and co-development of defence items, including transfer of technology with a special emphasis on the 'Make in India' initiative.

Diplomatic efforts have also focused on supporting the recently introduced Strategic Partnership model that seeks to enhance participation of private Indian firms in defence manufacturing. The model envisages establishment of long-term strategic partnerships with Indian entities through a transparent and competitive process, wherein they would tie up with global Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) to seek technology transfers to set up domestic industrial ecosystem and infrastructure, integration with global supply chains and assistance in training skilled human resources.

India's membership to the multilateral export control regimes, such as, Wassenaar Arrangement (WA) and Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) is expected to facilitate high technology tie-ups with Indian industry and ease access to high-tech items for India's defence programmes.

With regard to strengthening of partnerships, Government engages with various countries through bilateral, multilateral and plurilateral platforms on issues that advance our interests and promote our viewpoint. In its engagements with partner countries under various plurilateral platforms, Government has discussed exploring practical steps to enhance cooperation on issues of common interest including international security.
