

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE  
**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2613**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 3<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY, 2018

**LARGEST ARMED FORCES**

2613. SHRI DIBYENDU ADHIKARI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE j{k k ea=h  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the country has the third largest armed forces in the world;
- (b) if so, whether the country was the world's largest arms importer during the last three years and the current year;
- (c) if so, the funds allocated and the arms and equipment imported during the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the details of procurement policies to promote greater collaboration between international defence manufacturers and the Indian private sector in respect of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)?

**A N S W E R**

MINISTER OF STATE  
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)

रक्षा रणनीति मंत्री

(डा. सुभाष भामरे)

**(a) India has adequate number of armed forces personnel to safeguard its borders.**

**(b) to (d): Procurement of defence equipment is undertaken from various domestic as well as foreign vendors, based on threat perception, operational challenges and technological changes and to keep the Armed Forces in a state of readiness to meet the entire spectrum of security challenges.**

**Capital procurement of defence equipment is carried out as per the extant defence procurement procedure. During the last three years and current year (upto 30.11.2017), 119 contracts involving Rs.1,16,522.89 crore have been signed with Indian vendors and 68 contracts involving Rs.1,24,291.33 crore have been signed with foreign vendors for capital**

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procurement of defence equipment for Armed Forces. The expenditure on purchase of defence equipment from Indian and foreign vendors is incurred from allocated Capital Budget. The Budget allocation and the expenditure on capital acquisition during last three years are given below:

(Rs. in Crore)		
Year	Revised Estimate	Expenditure (Capital Acquisition)
2014-15	66151.73	65862.38
2015-16	65400.00	62235.54
2016-17	62619.36	68252.87

Government is pursuing initiatives to achieve higher levels of indigenisation and self-reliance in the defence sector by harnessing the capabilities of the public and private sector industries in the country. These measures include according priority and preference to procurement from Indian vendors and liberalized licensing regime.

Government has also promulgated the policy on Strategic Partnership in the defence Sector which is intended to institutionalise a transparent and objective mechanism to encourage broader participation of the private sector in manufacture of major defence platforms and equipment.

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