

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3138
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 14TH MARCH, 2018

AUTONOMOUS WEAPONS SYSTEM

3138. SHRI C. MAHENDRAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the Government's stand on the development, adoption and / or integration of Autonomous Weapons System (AWS) by various nations including USA, Russia, China for enhancing their offensive as well as defensive capabilities; and
- (b) whether the Government has developed or likely to develop any of these technologies for its further use or deterrence and if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE (DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

रक्षा राज्य मंत्री

(डा. सुभाष भामरे)

(a) & (b): Weapon systems with varying levels of autonomy are already in use in some countries. Indian Armed Forces also have several weapon systems which are autonomous with 'fire and forget' capability. DRDO has undertaken Design and Development of similar autonomous weapon systems.

Recent advances in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Autonomous Intelligent Systems have the potential, like other dual-use technologies to be leveraged for both offense and defense. Government keeps all relevant developments under review and remains committed to taking necessary steps to uphold national security in accordance with its own assessments.
