

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

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3671**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2018

**TECHNOLOGICAL PARTNER FOR SMALL ARMS**

3671. SHRI K.N. RAMACHANDRAN:  
SHRI BHARATHI MOHAN R.K.:  
SHRI PR. SENTHIL NATHAN:

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

- (a) whether the Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) has issued any circular on Expression of Interest (EoIs) opened prior to the approval of new Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) in March 2018 to be based on the old SOP of September 2016 or the newly approved SOP;;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken three years to decide not to proceed with approval of Technological Partner (OEM) for manufacture of small arms since the EoI was floated in 2015;
- (d) if so, the status of other EoIs floated by OFB in the last three years; and
- (e) whether they were given approval by the Government based on old SOP or new SOP and if so, the details thereof?

**A N S W E R**  
MINISTER OF STATE (DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)  
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
रण रणय मंणी (डा. सुभाष भामरे)

**(a) to (e): A Statement is attached.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) of LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3671 FOR ANSWER ON 08 AUGUST 2018**

**(a) to (e):** Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) , in April 2018 had issued a circular regarding applicability of 'Guidelines for Selection of Technological Partner' to the Expression of Interests (Eols) issued prior to their coming into force of the new guidelines. As per this circular the cases where responses are (i) yet to opened, the concerned factories shall withdraw the Eols and the same shall be processed by OFB HQ as provided in the new guidelines of March 2018 , (ii) the cases where responses have been opened would continue to be processed as per the earlier guidelines of September 2016; however, if at any stage during the processing of these Eols , it is decided to reissue the EOI, the same shall be done as per the new guidelines of March 2018. Subsequently OFB in their Board meeting held on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018 decided to process all the cases , old and new as per new 'Guidelines for Selection of Technology Partner' approved by MOD in March 2018.

The Eol for identifying / shortlisting OEM for collaboration in the production of small arms for civilian market was issued in 2015. Meanwhile, in the changed scenario OFB shifted its focus from manufacturing of civilian weapon to manufacturing weapons for Services and Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). The proposal for selection of partner for co-production of Non-Prohibited Bore (NPB) weapons has been dropped by OFB.

In the last three years, seven global Eols have been floated by OFB. The status of the same is as under:-

Sl. No	Item	Status
1.	Air Defence Gun & Ammunition.	Closed
2.	70mm Rocket	Processed for closure.
3.	Assault Rifle 7.62mm	-do-
4.	Non-Prohibited Bore Pistol(NPB)	Closed.
5.	Mini Truck	Closed.
6.	Mounted Gun System	EOI for selection of technology partner was floated for participation in the forthcoming Request for Proposal (RFP) for 155mm Mounted Gun System to be issued by the Army HQ. MoU has been signed by OFB in August 2017 with M/s BAE Systems, USA with validity of two years from the date of signing.
7.	Air Defence Gun for Indian Army	Processed for closure.

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