

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.416
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12TH DECEMBER, 2018

IMPORT OF ARMS

416. SHRI MANSUKHBHAI DHANJIBHAI VASAVA:
PROF. CHINTAMANI MALVIYA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is ranked number one in import of weapons from other countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the expenditure made on import of weapons during the last three years;
- (c) whether the Government has reviewed or proposes to review the implications of such imports on national security and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if so, the steps being taken or proposed to be taken by the Government to augment the defence preparedness to meet the challenges in this regard; and
- (e) the role played by make-in-India and digital movement in indigenous manufacturing of weapons so far and the outcome thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)

रक्षा राज्य मंत्री

(डा. सुभाष भामरे)

(a) to (e): No authoritative and official information on India being the largest importer of defence equipment is available as no country officially reveals information on import of defence equipment. However, in the report published in February 2017 by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), India has been shown as the largest importer of defence equipment for the year 2012-2016.

Capital 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.

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 liberalization of the licensing regime.

During the last three years and in the current year, 121 contracts have been signed with Indian vendors and 67 contracts have been signed with foreign vendors for capital procurement of defence equipment for Armed Forces.
