STARTUPS IN DEFENCE

3738. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:
Will the Minister of DEFENCE j{kk ea=h
be pleased to state:

(a) whether Department of Defence Production deals with matters such as defence production and indigenization of imported equipments;
(b) if so, whether the Government is allowing startups to enter defence ecosystem;
(c) if so, the details thereof and the challenges before Defence India Startups;
(d) whether electronic hardware incubator, the Maker Village from Kerala, has sought an offer for establishment of defence production units in its space; and
(e) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE (SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
रक्षा राज्य मंत्री (श्री श्रीपाद नाईक)

(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. 3738 FOR ANSWER ON 11.12.2019 REGARDING ‘STARTUPS IN DEFENCE’.

(a) : Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) :

I. Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) framework, was launched with the aim to achieve self-reliance and to foster innovation and technology development in Defence and Aerospace Sector by engaging Industries including MSMEs, start-ups, individual innovators, R&D institutes and academia. Initially, 15 problem statements were launched. 44 iDEX winners have so far been identified for 14 problem statements. 3 new problem statements have been launched recently to expand the network.

II. Furthermore, DRDO has launched a program termed as “Technology Development Fund (TDF)” for meeting the requirements of Tri-Services, Defence Production and DRDO. The scheme has been established to promote self-reliance in Defence Technology as part of the 'Make in India' initiative by encouraging participation of public/private industries especially MSMEs.

III. Further, ‘Make-II’ procedure has been simplified to encourage wider participation of Indian industry, with impetus for MSME/Start-ups and timely induction of equipment into Indian Armed Forces. The ‘Start-ups’ recognized by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), are eligible to participate under ‘Make-II’ procedure. In addition, the framework for implementation of ‘Make II’ at OFB and DPSU level has also been notified.

The Challenges given so far under iDEX are enclosed at Annexure.

(d) & (e): Maker Village, Kochi is now a Partner Incubator in the iDEX program.

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ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (b) & (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3738 FOR ANSWER ON 11.12.2019 REGARDING ‘STARTUPS IN DEFENCE’.

DISC I
i. Individual Protection System with in-built sensors
ii. See Through Armour
iii. Carbon Fibre Winding (CFW)
iv. Active Protection System (APS)
v. Secure hardware based offline Encryptor Device for Graded Security
vi. Development of 4G/LTE based Tactical Local Area Network
vii. Development of Advanced Technology Based Desalination System (Water Purification) and Bilge Oily Water Separation System
viii. Artificial Intelligence in Logistics & Supply Chain Management (SCM)
ix. Remotely Piloted Airborne Vehicles
x. Laser Weaponry (No winner identified)
xi. Unmanned Surface and Underwater Vehicles

DISC II
i. GPS Anti Jam Device
ii. Data Analytics for Air Trajectory
iii. Illegal usage of Drones
iv. RADAR - IQ Signal Generator

DISC III
i. Four-axis stabilized antennae for C & KU band operation
ii. To create a Portable Spoof Emitter for surveillance and ground-based air defence weapons
iii. Friend or Foe Identification System

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