GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.552

TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.02.2020

NEW AND EMERGING STRATEGIC TECHNOLOGIES DIVISION

552. DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S.: DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE: SHRI SUNIL DATTATRAY TATKARE:

Will the Minister of EXTERAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has set up a new division called New and Emerging Strategic Technologies (NEST) recently and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of salient features and objectives behind setting up the said division;
- (c) whether NEST will help in confronting emerging challenges and scenarios in new technologies;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the manner in which the new division will function and the benefits likely to be derived in future; and
- (f) the other steps by the Government to spread emerging technologies among the States?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN]

(a) to (f) Yes, the Ministry has set up New and Emerging Strategic Technologies (NEST) Division to engage in technology diplomacy and deal with the foreign policy and international legal aspects of new and emerging technologies. The Division will function under the supervision of a Head of Division. It will enable more active participation of India in global forums in the area of technology governance and promoting our national interests in that context.
