

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3809
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25TH MARCH, 2022

ENHANCEMENT OF CAPACITY OF DEFENCE SECTOR

3809. MS. DEBASREE CHAUDHURI:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps to enhance the capacity of defence sector to enable security forces to efficiently tackle the present security scenario being faced by the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has taken steps to upgrade the existing weapons by adopting latest technology so that they can counter the enemy; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI AJAY BHATT)

(a) & (b): The Government has taken several policy initiatives in the past few years and brought in reforms to encourage indigenous design, development and manufacture of defence equipment in the country, thereby ensuring delivery of modern defence hardware to Indian Armed Forces. These initiatives, inter-alia, include according priority to procurement of capital items from domestic sources under Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP)-2020; Announcement of 18 major defence platforms for industry led design & development; Notification of two 'Positive Indigenisation Lists' of total 209 items of Services and one 'Positive Indigenisation List' of total 2851 items of Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs), for which there would be an embargo on the import beyond the timelines indicated against them; Simplification of Industrial licensing process with longer validity period; Liberalisation of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy allowing 74% FDI under automatic route; Simplification of Make Procedure; Launch of Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) scheme involving startups & Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs); Implementation of Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India) Order 2017; Launch of an indigenisation portal, namely, SRIJAN to facilitate indigenisation by Indian Industry including MSMEs; Reforms in Offset policy with thrust on attracting investment and Transfer of Technology for Defence manufacturing by assigning higher multipliers; and establishment of two Defence Industrial Corridors, one each in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

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The capacity and capability development plans of the Armed Forces remain dynamic/flexible and are based upon the appreciated immediate & emerging national security challenges and in support of operational response strategies. Accordingly, the Armed Forces are ensuring preparation & implementation of prioritized acquisition plans to maximize capacity & capability developments, in consonance with the evolving threat perception.

(c) & (d): Modernisation, upgradation and sustenance of military equipment and weapons is a continuous process and constant endeavor to equip the Armed Forces with modern weapon systems/equipment being carried out under various procurement provisions (DAP & DPM). Also, in emergency, special procurement powers to enhance the operational capability are given to the Service Headquarters.

DRDO has played a major role in the development of state-of-the-art platforms, weapon system and sensors and upgradation of defence equipment in the country which in turn has enhanced capacity of the Armed Forces to tackle the present security scenario of the country efficiently.
