GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 5614

ANSWERED ON- 04/04/2025

INDIA-SPAIN RELATIONSHIP

5614. SHRI KRIPANATH MALLAH

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:-

- (a) the outcome of the recent meeting between External Affairs

 Minister of India and Defence Minister of Spain;
- (b) the details of the specific areas of defence cooperation being prioritized in this new phase of cooperation;
- (c) whether the said moves to strengthen defence relation between India and Spain is likely to open up the possibility of additional defence procurement agreements or joint ventures in the near future; and
- (d) if so, the details of such specific sectors or products which are under active consideration?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

- (a) The External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar met the Defence Minister of Spain, Ms Margarita Robles, on 14 January 2025, during his official visit to Spain. During the meeting the two ministers took stock of the deepening partnership between the two countries and exchanged views on regional and global issues. They agreed to further strengthen cooperation in the defence sector.
- (b) to (d) India and Spain have a growing defence partnership. Tata Advanced Systems Ltd. in collaboration with Airbus Spain is setting up the Final Assembly Line Plant of C-295 aircraft at Vadodara. The same was inaugurated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and President of Government of Spain Mr. Pedro Sanchez during the latter's visit to India in 28-29 October 2024.

The Chief of Spanish Airforce Lt. Gen. Francisco Braco Carbo visited India in August 2024 to participate in Exercise Tarang Shakti. Vessels of Indian Navy participate frequently in Passage Exercises and Port Calls in Spanish coasts, the latest being INS Tabar in August 2024 and INS Sindhuratna, INS Tarkash, INS Chennai and INS Sumedha in 2023. The 5th India-Spain Defence Joint Working Group took place on 06 February 2025. Both sides are exploring closer collaboration in defence, particularly in technology and armament production areas.
