

Defence production policy

627. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India still continues to import almost 70 per cent of the requirements of its armed forces;

(b) whether Government is formulating a Defence Production Policy (DPP) to bolster the country's indigenous military industrial base; and

(c) whether to overcome this Government proposes to invite and encourage private players in arms production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) to (c) The Government is in the process of formulating a defence production policy to enhance our indigenous capability to manufacture our requirements for defence equipment by involving both the public sector as well as the private sector.

Involvement of MPs in Territorial Army

628. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is proposing to involve MPs and others in the Territorial Army with revised norms for them; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when that is likely to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Some suggestions have been received by Government for relaxation in rules relating to commissioning, embodiment and training to attract larger number of professionals and Members of Parliament, for shorter period of embodiment and training in Territorial Army and willing to serve nation during war, hostility or national emergency.

Government have not yet taken any decision on these suggestions.

Meeting hardware/software requirements for Defence forces

629. SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether DRDO is launching a campaign aiming to meet 70 per cent of military hardware and software requirement for the Defence forces;

(b) if so, how the existing 30-70 per cent ratio in favour of foreign armament manufacturers is designed to be reversed by the end of Twelfth Five Year Plan (2012-2017);

(c) what percentage of budgetary allocations were made towards pursuing R & D activities during 2007-2008 and 2008-2009; and

(d) whether these were actually spent or some of the funds lapsed to Government?