

(b) if so, whether Government has ordered an inquiry into the reasons for the accident of the aircraft and the loss of life and property as a result of it;

(c) whether the aircrafts are meeting with accidents due to the maintenance work of the Sukhoi aircrafts not being carried out on time by the Air Force;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the amount spent on the repair and maintenance task of these Sukhoi aircrafts during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A Court of Inquiry has been ordered to ascertain the cause of accident and lost to service property.

(c) and (d) The maintenance work on SU-30 aircraft is carried out in accordance with procedures specified in the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) Maintenance Manuals and Servicing Schedules for the aircraft.

(e) The details of amount spent on the repair and maintenance task of the Sukhoi aircraft during the last three years is as under:

Year	Repairs and maintenance cost
2011-2012	₹551.35 crore
2012-2013	₹877.84 crore
2013-2014	₹834.76 crore

#### **Exports of weapons by DRDO**

1753. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether DRDO proposes to enter into the lucrative global arms market by selling its products to various countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the arms/weapon systems shortlisted for export;

(d) the details of the foreign exchange likely to be earned by DRDO as a result thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by Government/DRDO to speed up production of arms/weapon systems along with the initial response it has received from the arms dealers and foreign countries?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) to (d) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has been mandated towards making the country independent of foreign technology in the areas of defence and is primarily engaged in design and development of strategic complex and security sensitive systems for Armed Forces. A number of defence systems designed and developed by DRDO have been productionised by the production agencies and inducted into Armed Forces. DRDO is not involved in the export of defence equipment. However, some of the DRDO's developed products/systems, like radars, electronic warfare systems, missiles, naval systems, etc. can be exported to our friendly countries. Some countries have shown their initial interests to acquire DRDO developed systems. DRDO, being a designer of these systems, need to play a lead role to adopt these systems to customer needs (export version) after taking into account the national security concerns.

(e) Technologies of DRDO developed systems are transferred to industries for production and delivery to users as per their requirements. Production agencies can accept orders from other users after meeting the requirements of the Armed Forces.

#### **Indigenous production of MBTs**

1754. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has started an ambitious project of producing indigenous Main Battle Tanks (MBTs); and

(b) if so, the details thereof and details of funds spent in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Heavy Vehicle Factory (HVF), Avadi has already produced and delivered 121 Nos of indigenously designed and developed Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun Mark-I to Army.

(b) DRDO has spent ₹305.60 crore for design and development of MBT Arjun Mark-I while Ordnance Factory Board has spent ₹86.73 crore on creation of facilities for manufacturing of this tank in its different factories.