

- (a) whether 60 per cent of India's defence weaponry are imported;
- (b) whether only one-third reduction in imported weaponry could create about one lakh highly skilled jobs within India; and
- (c) if so, what steps Government has taken to reduce import in defence sector and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) to (c) The percentage of expenditure on foreign procurement of Defence Equipment for Army, Navy and Air Force under Capital and Revenue during 2014-15 was 37.11%.

The Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) 2013 provides that preference will be given to indigenous design, development and manufacture of defence equipment. Therefore, whenever the required arms, ammunition and equipment can be made by Indian Industry within the timelines required by the Services, the procurement will be made from indigenous sources. The DPP 2013 mandates higher preference to the 'Buy (Indian)' 'Buy & Make (Indian)' and 'Make' categorization in Capital Procurement. The preferred order of categorisation for indigenous sources is in line with creation of jobs within India.

The Defence Production Policy focuses on greater self-reliance in defence production. Government has also raised the FDI limit in defence production from 26% to 49%.

Modernisation of IAF's Base Repair Depots

1654. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has chalked out any plan to upgrade and modernise Base Repair Depots (BRDs) of Indian Air Force across the country, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the steps taken by Government for induction of new aerial platforms to boost depleting squadron strength of Indian Air Force?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) Modernisation of Base Repair Depots (BRDs) of the Indian Air Force (IAF) is a continuous and ongoing process. The requirement of BRDs to equip them with State-

of-the-Art technology to undertake assigned Repair and Overhaul tasks for the aircraft / Systems / Equipment is assessed regularly and necessary action is taken.

(b) New platforms are inducted from time to time based upon assessed requirements of the IAF. Recent inductions include Su-30 MKI manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) among others.

Effect of indigenisation of technology on the defence preparedness

1655. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has recently contemplated to formulate a policy for indigenisation of technology for building of submarines, aircraft and helicopters for Indian Navy;

(b) if so, whether all the implications, positive or negative, have been considered by Government for such a decision; and

(c) the likely effect of indigenising of building submarines, aircrafts and helicopters on the India's preparedness in defending its territorial waters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (RAO INDERJIT SINGH) : (a) 1. The Defence Production Policy promulgated in 2011, aims at achieving substantive self-reliance in the design, development and production of equipment, weapon systems, platforms required for defence in as early a time frame as possible; creating conditions conducive for the private industry to take an active role in this endeavour; enhancing potential of SMEs in indigenisation and broadening the defence R&D base of the country.

2. In pursuance of the Policy of achieving substantial self-reliance in Defence Production, the Government has taken several initiatives to promote participation of domestic defence industries in Defence Production and Procurement. These include, preference to 'Buy (Indian)' and 'Buy & Make (Indian)' categories of acquisition over 'Buy (Global)', liberalization of FDI and Industrial Licensing Policy. Level Playing Field in respect of Customs/ Excise Duties between private sector and the public sector, etc. Details of the steps taken to boost defence manufacturing sector are given in the Statement (See below).

3. In addition, the Indian Navy has undertaken the following initiatives:-