

US-India Defence Framework Agreement, 2015

54. SHRI NAZIR AHMED LAWAY:

SHRI RANJIB BISWAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and the US, during the visit of the US Secretary of Defence, signed the 2015 US-India Defence Framework Agreement to deepen bilateral defence cooperation in several security related areas, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether some pathfinder projects have also been identified for joint development and production, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the benefits likely to accrue to the country as a result thereof; and

(d) the time by which all the decisions agreed upon by the two nations would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) Yes, Sir. A Framework for India-US Defence Relationship was signed on 3rd June, 2015, which builds upon the previous Framework to guide the bilateral defence and strategic partnership for the next ten years. The new Framework provides avenues for high level strategic discussions, continued exchanges between armed forces of both countries and strengthening of defence capabilities.

(b) to (d) Both sides have identified proposals for joint development of Mobile Electric Hybrid Power Sources and Next Generation Protective Ensembles. The proposed cooperation envisages enhancement of India's defence technological and manufacturing capabilities.

No time frame for the implementation of the identified projects has been indicated as these relate to research and development.

Relaxation of offset clause for Defence procurement

55. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy on Offset Clause for the acquisition of Defence equipment from foreign manufacturers;

(b) whether the stated objectives of the Offset Clause is to promote the domestic manufacturing, if so, the details thereof; and