

Trichy Assault Rifles

1007. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to buy Assault Rifles from other countries;

(b) what is the assessment by the Defence Authorities about the Trichy Assault Rifles; and

(c) what is the quantum of Trichy Assault Rifles procured so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) The General Staff Qualitative Requirements (GSQRs) for Assault Rifles have been finalized in July, 2017. The procurement of the Rifles would be carried out as per the extant Defence procurement procedures.

(b) and (c) Trichy Assault Rifles have neither been assessed nor procured by the Army.

Russian defence firms in Make in India initiative

1008. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has asked the Russian Defence Sector firms to join the Make in India initiative; and

(b) if so, whether the Russian Defence firms are showing interest to participate in the initiative, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) Under the 'Make in India' initiative in defence sector, all foreign companies including Russian companies are encouraged to set up their manufacturing facilities in the country through partnerships/joint ventures with Indian companies. To promote manufacturing of spare parts/components of major Russian-origin platforms, so as to ensure life-cycle support, an India-Russia Military Industrial Conference was organized in New Delhi in March 2017. Large number of Russian defence companies and Indian companies participated in the Conference along with representatives of both the Governments.