

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) details about the current status of such projects, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) to (d) Government is pursuing initiatives to achieve higher levels of indigenization and self-reliance in the defence sector by harnessing the capabilities of the public and private sector industries in the countries. These measures include according priority and preference to procurement from Indian vendors and liberalization of the licensing regime. Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) accords the highest priority to Buy Indian (Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured) (IDDM). The 'Make' procedure has been simplified with provisions for earmarking projects not exceeding development cost of ₹ 10 crores (Government funded) and ₹ 3 crores (Industry funded) for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs); and with provisions for involving private industry as production agencies and technology transfer partners. Government has also promulgated the policy on Strategic Partnership in the Defence Sector to encourage broader participation of the private sector in manufacture of major defence platforms and equipment.

During last three financial years, out of 99 contracts signed with Indian vendors, 49 contracts have been signed with Indian private vendors for procurement of defence equipment. Delivery schedule of equipment is specified in each contract.

#### **Defence projects under Make in India**

1927. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether no defence projects have been taken up under the Make in India framework during the last three years and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether such delays render India strategically vulnerable and also disadvantaged in being dependent on large military hardware imports and if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government has formulated any Defence Production Policy to herald a new era in providing domestically manufactured Military Hardware for the Indian Armed Force; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) 'Make in India' in defence sector is primarily driven by capital acquisition of defence equipment and other policy measures taken to promote indigenous design, development and manufacture of defence equipment

in the country by harnessing the capabilities of the public and private sector. In the last three financial years *i.e.* from 2015-16 to 2017-18, Government has accorded Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) to 111 proposals, worth ₹ 1,78,900 crore approximately, under 'Buy (Indian-IDDm)', 'Buy (Indian)', 'Buy and Make (Indian)' or 'Make' categories of capital procurement as per Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP), which means Request for Proposal (RFP) is issued only to Indian Vendors. In the last three financial years *i.e.* from 2015-16 to 2017-18, 99 contracts worth about ₹ 65,471.28 crore have been signed with Indian vendors for procurement of defence equipment. DPP stipulates a time schedule for completion of the procurement cycle. The time taken to undertake capital procurement of defence equipment depends on the nature and complexity of the equipment being procured.

(c) and (d) The Government had promulgated the Defence Production Policy in 2011 which aimed 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 private industry to play an active role in this endeavour; enhancing potential of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in indigenisation and broadening the defence R&D base of the country. Recently, a draft Defence Production Policy-2018 was prepared and placed in public domain to provide a focused, structured and significant thrust to development of defence design and production capabilities in the country. The Defence Production Policy 2018 has not yet been finalized.

#### **Recruitment drive for serving armed officers in DRDO**

1928. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has invited applications from serving officers of the three services already working with it, for permanent absorption as civilian officials into its Defence Research and Development Cadre;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that once absorbed, the officers will be treated as civilian scientists for pay and promotion; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per existing provision, Service Officers on tenure in Defence