

- (c) if so, the target achieved till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No official information on India importing 14 per cent of the total arms and ammunition globally which was more than that imported by China and Pakistan collectively is available, as no country officially reveals information on their import of defence equipment.

Capital acquisition of defence equipment for the Indian Defence Forces is undertaken from various vendors as per the extant Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) based on their operational needs and stated requirements to keep the Indian Defence Forces in a state of readiness to meet the entire spectrum of security challenges.

During the last three financial years (2016-17 to 2018-19), 149 capital acquisition contracts have been concluded out of which 91 contracts have been placed on Indian vendors for procurement of defence equipment for the Indian Defence Forces.

(b) and (c) DRDO does not have any such declared policy. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is involved in design and development of strategic, complex and security sensitive systems in the fields of missiles, unmanned aerial vehicles, radars, electronic warfare systems, sonars, combat vehicles, combat aircraft, sensors etc., for the Indian Defence Forces as per their specified requirements.

Appointment of Chief of Defence Staff

17. SHRI VAIKO:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to appoint a Chief of Defence Staff (CDS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any Committee was formed to ensure time-bound appointment of CDS and the role and charter of CDS;
- (d) if so, details thereof;
- (e) whether any study has been done to ensure that creation of CDS does not lead to imbalances and vulnerabilities in the Services;

(f) if so, details thereof; and

(g) time by which, the required military reforms will be made, before CDS is made fully operational to sync with the Chiefs of Services, and command and control structures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) Yes. The Government has approved in-principle the creation of a post of CDS. An Implementation Committee was also approved and constituted to further determine and finalize the exact responsibilities, an enabling framework for this new post and all other issues involved to ensure smooth operationalization.

(e) and (f) A number of Committees *viz.* the Kargil Review Committee, Group of Ministers (GoM) Report, Task Force on National Security and Shekatkar Committee have studied and recommended creation of the post of CDS/Permanent Chairman Chiefs of Staff Committee.

(g) Military reforms is a continuous process and requisite steps are taken by the Government from time to time, as deemed necessary.

Border Chronicle

18. SHRI VAIKO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to bring 'Border Chronicle', a project on history of borders to raise awareness of the masses;

(b) whether India has a disputed border with China and Pakistan, the manner in which the historians demarcate the borders at those places;

(c) whether national security would be compromised while giving authentic writings on the borders with our neighbours; and

(d) time-frame for finalising the Chronicle and putting it in the public view?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. A project to write the history of Indian borders is being undertaken by the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi, which is being funded by Ministry of Defence.

There are some border-related issues with China and Pakistan. National Security and International sensitivity will be guiding factor in writing border history.