

- (b) budget allocated for the same; and
- (c) degree of increase in capability of Indian Air Force due to this upgradation and modernisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The modernization of the Armed Forces is an ongoing process and is executed in consonance with the roadmap laid down in the Long Term Integrated Perspective Plan (LTIPP) which specifies the capabilities that the armed forces including Indian Air Force (IAF) need to acquire over a 15 year period (2012-27), considering the current capabilities of the armed forces, the emerging threats in the region and the prevailing technological environment. The modernization of the Armed Forces including IAF is carried out by continuously upgrading the existing systems to maintain their operational relevance and replacing old system with state-of-the-art systems.

The budget allocated during the financial year 2019-20 for modernisation to IAF is ₹ 36,409.89 crore.

Status of Defence Industrial Corridor in Tamil Nadu

29. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government held any meet regarding investment in Defence Industrial Corridor in the State of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has prepared any Detailed Project Report (DPR) in this regard;
- (d) if so, details thereof; and
- (e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (e) Hon'ble Finance Minister in his budget speech (2018-19) had announced setting up of two Defence Industrial Corridors in the country. In pursuance to the said announcement, it was decided to set up one of the corridors in Uttar Pradesh and the other in Tamil Nadu. During an event organized at Tiruchirappalli on 20 January, 2019, an investment of over ₹3,100 crore was announced by OFB/DPSUs

and Private Industries for Tamil Nadu Defence Corridor. The Government has appointed a consultant for the preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Defence Corridor.

Recruitment of women in the army

30. SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Army would induct women jawans in the corps of military police;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Army would also explore recruitment of women in Army posts later;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Army is considering to increase the intake of women in other ranks; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) and (b) Indian Army has a plan for phased induction of women in below Officer Rank in the Corps of Military Police.

(c) to (e) Presently, there is no proposal for additional recruitment of women in Army.

Need for strategic security equipment

†31. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a need to revive our capabilities for replacing obsolete war equipment with equipment produced through domestic technology, for removing technical flaws and to meet the need for strategic security equipment in defence sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received suggestions from top officers of Army in this regard and whether required steps are being taken keeping in view the above suggestions; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.