

- (ii) A detailed SOP for taking action against empanelled hospitals has been issued on 10.10.2019 by Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare, Ministry of Defence.
- (d) Question does not arise.

#### **Lowest Bidder Tender System**

22. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a concern that the Lowest-Bidder-Tender System (LI contracting) doesn't allow for more sophisticated and better quality defence equipment to be procured;
- (b) if so, the details and reasons thereof; and
- (c) whether there is any plan to revisit the L1 contracting system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The acquisitions of defence equipment are done on the basis of qualitative requirements and the performance parameters defined by the Indian Armed Forces. Only vendors whose equipment meet these requirements/parameters are considered and contract is concluded with the lowest bidder amongst these vendors.

#### **Domestically manufactured defence products**

23. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage of defence equipment manufactured in the domestic arena for defence purposes under the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the number of products amongst these which has been privatised;
- (b) the criteria used to determine core and non-core products in the defence sector; and
- (c) the number of products that have been classified as non-core products along with a list of such products and their purposes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) DRDO is engaged in development of Defence Technologies covering various disciplines like aeronautics, armaments, electronics, combat vehicles, engineering

systems, instrumentation, missiles etc. All the defence equipments designed and developed by DRDO, are manufactured by Indian industries (Private, Public and Ordnance Factories). The relevant technical 'know-how' for the same is provided to the industries through Transfer of Technology (ToT). During the last three years, around 300 Licensing Agreements for Transfer of Technology (LAToT) have been signed with Indian industries, wherein 270 LAToTs have been signed with private industries.

(b) and (c) DRDO being technology developer, there is no distinction between core and non core products, however, to facilitate ToT to industries, technologies are categorized in two categories. The first category is Category 'A' which comprises of military Technologies only. The second category is Category 'B' which comprises of dual use technologies that have civilian applications also in commercial market as spin-off.

#### **Theft on board INS Vikrant**

24. SHRI AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that theft of crucial material took place from systems on-board INS Vikrant, being built by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) in Kochi;

(b) if so, whether investigations into the incident have been concluded and the details thereof; and

(c) the details of measures undertaken by Government to prevent incidents of such nature in future?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) to (c) On 16.9.2019, M/s Cochin Shipyard has reported theft of certain commercially off the shelf (COTS) hardware items from Multi Function Consoles (MFCs) of Integrated Platform Management System onboard Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC).

The investigations by the Kerala Police and National Investigation Agency have been instituted.

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) is responsible for the security of Cochin Shipbuilding Ltd. (CSL). To compliment CISF, CSL has also engaged additional manpower for the security of the yard as well as the aircraft carrier.

Security has already been enhanced at sensitive points in the yard as per the recommendations of Kerala Police and other Central Security Agencies.