

**PSUs, participation in construction bid of
LPD class of ships**

1138. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Public Sector Ship building companies are allowed to take part in the bid for the construction of Landing Platform Dock (LPD) class of ships for the Indian Navy;

(b) if so, the number of PSUs which have taken part in the bid; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The shortlisting of Shipyards for participation in Landing Platform Dock (LPD) Class of ships for the Indian Navy is based on the technical capability, capacity of the Shipyard and the financial assessment. Larsen & Toubro (L&T) and Reliance Naval and Engineering Ltd., had submitted bids for LPD Project.

Steps taken to strengthen the army

1139. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state the details of steps taken by Government to strengthen the army and defence of the country during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): During the last five years concerted steps have been initiated by the Government for Modernisation of the Army, leading to its strengthening and capability development. The Make in India initiative and Strategic Partnership Model are important reforms implemented by the Government to provide impetus to capability development by facilitating acquisition of modern weapon systems. Major impetus has been given in upgradation and development of infrastructure along the borders in a holistic and comprehensive manner, including habitat, roads, tunnels, bridges and Advance Landing Grounds (ALGs). The appointment of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) and the creation of Department of Military Affairs has resulted in far greater synergy with Ministry of Defence and also given the twin objectives of Integration/Jointness within the Services.

New and innovative measures by the Ministry

1140. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new and innovative measures have been undertaken by Government in general and/or its various departments or Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) and autonomous bodies associated with it to improve work culture, bring more transparency and accountability and also enhance result orientation, during the last five years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the impact of these efforts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Ministry of Defence has taken several new and innovative measures to improve work culture, bring more transparency and accountability and also enhance result orientation which are as under:-

- (i) Measures for promoting Probity, Public Accountability and Transparency in defence capital procurements: Execution of Pre Contract Integrity Pact (PCIP) for all cases above ₹ 20 crore is being done to ensure integrity in procurement process. Guidelines for Handling of Complaints provide for time bound disposal of complaints and are aligned to CVC/DoP&T guidelines. Instructions have been issued for ascertaining vigilance status of L-1 vendor before seeking approval of the Competent Financial Authority. Guidelines for Penalties in Business Dealings with Entities and Capacity Assessment for Shipbuilding Entities have been notified.
- (ii) Measures undertaken by Services to improve work culture, transparency: The Organizations follow a fair and transparent policy in distribution of work, posting, grant of leave, honours and award etc. through constant monitoring of cases on weekly and monthly basis and ensuring timelines and accountability. IT resources are being exploited to the optimum to ensure monitoring of work flow, pendency of cases and achievement of results. Online tests for selection of personnel through examination web portal have been started which increased IAF's testing capability by 8 to 10 times' and facilitated candidates to appear for exams in their nearby locations. IAF has successfully implemented Project e-MMS (e-Maintenance Management System) which is a versatile maintenance management tool. Non-classified communications have been moved towards paperless office

using software developed by IAF. An Automation Cell have been set up by IAF to digitize, automate and reengineer various operational, maintenance and administrative tasks of IAF with an aim to bring transparency and accountability. IHQ MoD (Navy) has also commenced centralized online recruitment of Naval Civilians to lead a fair and transparent recruitment process.

In addition to the above measures, installation of biometric attendance system; implementation of IT to monitor workflow, pendency of cases and achievements of results; Performance Management System (PMS) to improve individual performance; online recruitment portal have been undertaken.

Infiltration by terrorists

1141. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the cases of infiltration by terrorists into India with the help of Pakistani soldiers have risen in the last one year;
- (b) if so, the details of the incidents that have come to the notice of Government in the past one year; and
- (c) the details of the terrorists killed and wounded in the encounters between the Indian Army and terrorists and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There have been 138 cases of infiltration by terrorists along Line of Control/International Border during the year 2019.

Due to concerted and synergized efforts of security forces, 157 terrorists were neutralized in the year 2019 in Jammu and Kashmir.

Action taken against sale of defence personnel uniform pattern

1142. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the sale of defence personnel uniform pattern is banned in the country;