

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2096
TO BE ANSWERED ON 15th MARCH, 2021

PROCUREMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTS DEVELOPED BY DRDO

2096 SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has ignored indigenous tanks developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in its recent defence procurement;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has invited private companies in the procurement of defence products;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with amount of tender given to them, company-wise;
- (e) the number of products developed by DRDO accepted and absorbed by Army in last three years; and
- (f) the details of amount sanctioned to DRDO for research work exclusively in the last three years, year-wise?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK

(a) to (f): Quantity 124 Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun Mark 1, developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) have been inducted into the Indian Army since 2008. DRDO has further developed upgraded Arjun Mark 1A Tank for which Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for additional quantity of 118 tanks has been accorded in February, 2021.

The Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020 accords the highest priority to Buy (Indian-Indigenously Designed Developed and Manufactured). Government has put in place enablers to achieve higher level of indigenisation and self-reliance in the defence sector by harnessing the capabilities of the public and private sector industries in the country. Further, in order to boost Research & Development in private industry, DRDO has identified a list of 108 systems and subsystems which will be designed, developed and manufactured by industry only.

AoN in respect of 50 procurement cases under the category Buy Indian (IDDM) have been accorded during the last three years and current year (2020-21). Four contracts have been signed for the equipment/systems developed by DRDO during the last three years and current year (2020-21).
