

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4407
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2014
PRODUCTION OF DEFENCE EQUIPMENT
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether licensed production of defence equipment and lack of funding have been a cause for stagnation of Defence Research and Development (R&D);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the other steps taken and the incentives provided to boost defence R&D and utilise domestically developed defence technology?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) & (b): Licensed production of defence equipment is usually preferred for readily available products and to meet the requirements of Services within a short span of time whereas, indigenous development and production takes relatively long time. This approach does not stagnate defence R&D.

DRDO is concentrating on R&D of strategic, complex and security sensitive systems for which no technology is transferred by the technologically advanced countries.

Lack of funding is one of the reasons for stagnation of Defence R&D. Over the past few years, inadequacy of funds have affected R&D in defence. However, Government has substantially increased annual budget of Department of Defence R&D for the current financial year (2014-15), which will certainly boost defence R&D in the country.

(c) Government has increased budget for Department of Defence R&D, preference is given to acquire indigenous systems over imported systems with similar parameters, use of defence spin-offs in other sectors including civilian sectors, offer of Low Intensity Conflict (LIC) technologies to paramilitary forces and other security forces, indigenous defence production under Make in India programme, are some of the major steps being taken to boost Defence R&D and to utilize domestically developed defence technology. Incentives to DRDO Scientists and Development Teams after successful development of defence systems may also boost their morale in this regard.