

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4573  
ANSWERED ON:19.12.2014  
SCIENCE AUDIT OF DRDO  
Lekhi Smt. Meenakashi

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) the proportion of defence expenditure spent on importing defence equipment in 2013-14;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to revamp the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) facilities and equipment in an attempt to boost Research and Development (R&D) and indigenous production of defence technology and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the science audit of DRDO is pending for a long time;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to conduct a science audit of DRDO facilities and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) The proportion of expenditure in respect of orders placed on foreign vendors to the total expenditure on defence equipment for Capital Acquisition in respect of all the three Services during the Financial Year 2013-14 was 42.70%.

(b) Infrastructure and facilities have been created to test and evaluate systems / technologies developed by DRDO laboratories. These facilities and associated equipment are upgraded regularly. The following are some of the major test facilities being created in DRDO to boost R&D and indigenous production of defence technology:

# Aeronautical Test Range.

# Augmentation of Environmental Test Facility for Warheads and Electronic System.

# Electronic Warfare (EW) Test Range.

# Hypersonic Wind Tunnel.

# Instrumented and Mechanised Drop Test Facility.

# MEMS Packaging Facility.

# National Open Air Range.

# Optical Fabrication Facility.

# Sea Keeping and Manoeuvring Facility.

# Optical Coatings Facility.

# Terrain Visualization and Simulation Facility.

# Thin Film Coating Facility.

# DRDO Flying Test Bed.

(c) to (e): During the past, DRDO has been audited / reviewed by Rama Rao Committee headed by Prof. P. Rama Rao and Economic Audit conducted through National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER). Performance Audit of DRDO laboratories / establishments are carried out regularly by audit authorities on case-to-case basis.

Three tier management and monitoring mechanism has been adopted for ongoing DRDO projects. In case of mega programmes,

inter-ministerial Apex Board has been constituted to manage and monitoring them. DRDO has Apex Management Board, Executive Board, Project Monitoring and Review Committee (PMRC), and Project Review Committee to monitor and review ongoing projects. These Boards and Committees are represented by the developers, users, production agencies, inspection agencies, financial authorities, senior scientists from other scientific organizations, etc. and they review and monitor projects periodically.

For all major programmes, there are multi-tier Programme Management Boards, having representation from the Services, DRDO Laboratories and in some cases from academic institutions and other national research laboratories. These Boards periodically monitor and review the programmes and help in early detection of bottlenecks and suggest mid-course corrective actions, as deemed appropriate. VCOAS reviews Staff Projects for Army, twice a year. DCAS is a member of the Engine Development Board; VCOAS, VCNS and DCAS are members of Missile Development Board. LCA Programme is being closely monitored and reviewed by the Governing Body and General Body of ADA. CAS and CNS are members of General Body of ADA. Similarly, major naval programmes are reviewed by senior naval officers like, VCNS and COM.

DRDO Management Council (DMC) monitors and reviews performance of laboratories / establishments on every alternate Tuesday to improve functioning of DRDO. Various review mechanisms have been instituted to review all ongoing projects at HQrs level, Technology Cluster level and Laboratory level.