

BHARAT FORGE



KALYANI

Mr. Baba Kalyani's Reaction on the 3rd Negative Arms Import List

MEDIA DOSSIER

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Highlights:

- The negative list released on 7 April, 2022 marks the third negative arms import ban list. As a result, the industry reactions to the announcement were minimal.
- Among those quoted in publications were the Defence Minister, former servicemen and a few industry body officials.
- Mr. Baba Kalyani was quoted alongside Defence Minister and other industry body officials, positioning him as a thought leader in the defence space.

Online Coverage

No.	Publication/Portal	Headline	Date
1	Financial Express	Third Positive Indigenisation: ARVs, Light tanks, drones, NUH and more in the list; Here's what Rajnath Singh said	April 7, 2022
2	The Hindu	Defence Ministry notifies 3rd positive indigenisation list	April 7, 2022
3	Raksha Anirveda	Third Positive Indigenisation List Released by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to Boost Self-Reliance in Defence Manufacturing	April 7, 2022
4	Aviation Defence Universe	Government to indigenise 101 more weapons and platforms	April 7, 2022
5	Indian Defence Industries	India Releases 3rd Indigenisation List of 101 items	April 7, 2022

Headline: Third Positive Indigenisation: ARVs, Light tanks, drones, NUH and more in the list; Here's what Rajnath Singh said	Publication : Financial Express
Date : April 7, 2022	Journalist: Huma Siddiqui

<https://www.financialexpress.com/defence/third-positive-indigenisation-arvs-light-tanks-drones-nuh-and-more-in-the-list-heres-what-rajnath-singh-said/2484889/>

Amidst the ongoing Ukraine-Russia crisis, on Thursday, the government has notified a list of items that will be produced indigenously here in India and will be in line with 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative. The list is expected to help in further increase procurement of indigenous military platforms for the Indian armed forces from the current USD 10 bn to USD 20 by 2025 and will help in meeting the export target of USD 5 bn for the same period.

Speaking at the launch of the Third Positive Indigenisation List on Thursday, defence minister [Rajnath Singh](#) said, "It is our endeavour to make India self-reliant in the defence sector, build the capabilities and ecosystems needed for defence exports in times to come."

In the 90s, India was denied super computers by countries who cited various reasons for the refusal. After that, "Our researchers, engineers, and scientists, of The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) in Pune established their own supercomputer."

The new list has complex systems and platforms including: Rockets, Naval Utility Helicopters, Patrol vessels for the Indian Navy and Coast Guard, Sensors, Weapons and ammunition, Anti-ship Missile, Anti-radiation missiles, and many more.

The defence minister also talked about the denial of access to knowledge of rocket science and space technology, however with the efforts of the rocket scientists in the country; India has become one of the leading countries in missile technology and space.

Talking about the first and the second indigenisation lists, according to the minister a contract of Rs 54,000 crore has been made so far and in the next 5-7 years, an order of Rs 4.5 lakh crore is expected to be given.

The systems and equipment in the list notified today would be manufactured locally for the Indian Armed Forces and will help in making India a defence manufacturing hub, said Rajnath Singh. Adding, "The third list released today builds on the 101 items in the first one and 108 items in the second, which were promulgated in 2020 and 2021 respectively."

Major items in the first list

There were conventional submarines, 155mm/39 Cal Ultra-Light Howitzer, Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Mk-IA – with more indigenised content, and communication satellites GSAT-7C.

Some major items in second list

The second list included 1000HP Engine for T-72 tank, next generation Corvette, Land based MRSAM weapon system, Onboard Oxygen Generation System (OBOGS) based integrated life support system for fighter aircraft, and Smart Anti-Field Weapon System (SAAW) Mk-I.

As has been reported earlier, the third list includes 101 complex systems and equipment which are in the process of being developed and are expected to eventually translate into firm orders from the Indian Armed Forces in the next few years.

Ahead of the announcement of the third list, the Ministry of Defence on Wednesday in an official statement indicated that orders more than Rs 2, 10,000 crore are expected to be placed on the industry over the next five years.

Some items from the third list include:

Mounted Artillery Gun System 155mm/ 52 Cal; 7.62mm x 54 (Sniper) Ammunition; See Through Armour; Light Weight Tanks; 155mm Terminal Guided Munition; Guided Extended Range (GER) Rocket for Pinaka Multiple Launch; Rocket System (MLRS); Armoured Recovery Vehicle (ARV) for MBT Arjun; Portable Helipad; Land Based Tactical Communication System; Next Generation Fast Attack Craft; Next Generation Fast Interceptor Craft; Ship Based Vertical Launched Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL SRSAM); Instrumented Electronic Warfare Range (IEWR); Range extension Kit (REK) for 450 Kg High Speed (HS) Bomb; Anti-Radiation Missile (ARMs) up to 100 Km.

What is ARV for the MBT Arjun Tank?

In 2018, the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) approved the procurement of Armoured Recovery Vehicles (ARVs) for the Indian Army's Main Battle Tank (MBT) 'Arjun'. These ARVs are used by the Indian army for recovery and repair of broken down T-72 tanks and BMP-1 and infantry combat vehicles.

This has been developed and designed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and as has been reported earlier, will be manufactured by Bharat Earth Movers Limited (BEML) for the Indian Army. Based on the basic Vijayanta chassis, this vehicle is expected to replace Centurion and Sherman ARVs and has the capacity to lift more than 8 tonnes and a pulling capacity of more than 20 tonnes.

Today in the presence of the defence minister and all the stakeholders, DRDO, signed 30 Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreements with 25 industries. And agreements related to 21 technologies which have been developed by 16 laboratories under DRDO spread across the country.

These technologies are related to Quantum Random Number Generator (QRNG), which has been developed by Pune based DRDO Young Scientist Lab; CBRN UGVs, Mine Barriers, Fire Fighting Suits, Boots for Anti Mine, Counter Drone System, Laser Directed Energy Weapon System, Missile Warhead, High Explosive Materials, High Grade Steel, Specialised Materials, Propellants, Surveillance & Reconnaissance, Radar Warning Receivers.

Till date, 1,430 ToT agreements have been done with the Indian industries by DRDO and out of which, and in the last two years a record number of around 450 ToT agreements have been firmed up.

Views from the Industry

"Given the current geopolitical scenario, the importance of being self-reliant in defence production is more apparent than ever," says SP Shukla, President, SIDM. Adding, the industry is all set to manufacture the 101 items indigenously and will also enhance the operational readiness of the Indian Armed forces.

Strong India

The list reaffirms the government's trust on the capability of the Indian Defence Industry, says Jayant Patil, Immediate Past President, SIDM.

"It will help to attain strategic independence in foreign policy- a much desired aim for all Nations in the current global geopolitical situation," he says.

According to him, the third list will be a shot in the arm to the domestic Defence Industry to realise the Aatmanirbhar Vision of Prime Minister Modi.

Said **Baba Kalyani, Founding President, SIDM,** "The Indian Defence Industry has been galvanised by the path-breaking policy reforms introduced by the Ministry of Defence in recent years."

Headline: Defence Ministry notifies 3rd positive indigenisation list

Publication : The Hindu

Date: April 7, 2022

Journalist: Dinaker Peri

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/defence-ministry-notifies-3rd-positive-indigenisation-list/article65299040.ece>

Release of list shows the fast pace of self-reliance in defence sector, says Rajnath

Self-reliance did not mean working in isolation from the rest of the world, but working in the country itself with their active participation and support, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Thursday after formally releasing the third positive indigenisation list of 101 equipment and platforms, which the Services can procure only from the domestic industry.

The list includes naval utility helicopters, light tanks, small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, anti-ship missiles among others.

At the event, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) handed over 30 Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreements to 25 Indian industries for transfer of 21 technologies developed by 16 DRDO labs across the country.

“The release of this list shows the fast pace of our self-reliance in the defence sector. This list is planned to be implemented from December 2022 till December 2027,” Mr. Singh said.

The DRDO stated that so far it had entered into more than 1430 ToT agreements with industries all over the country, out of which, 450 have been signed in the last two years.

One of the big ticket items on the list is naval utility helicopters, the procurement for which was to be processed through the Strategic Partnership route and has been hanging fire for over couple of years now. This is now expected to go to Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

Big systems in list

Other big systems in the list include sensors, weapons and ammunitions, rockets, patrol vessels, anti-ship missile, anti-radiation missile and several others which, Mr. Singh said, would fulfill the requirements of the armed forces.

Underscoring the important of self-reliance, he observed, “We were denied access to knowledge of space technology and rocket science but the effort and dedication of our rocket scientists has placed us in the forefront in space domain and missile capability. Today we have been successful in reaching Mars.”

As part of efforts to boost the domestic defence industry and promote defence exports, in August 2020, the government notified the first negative import list of 101 items and in May this year notified the second one, comprising 108 items, and renamed the third one as ‘positive indigenisation list’. The items on the lists cannot be imported by the Services and should be sourced from within the country.

Since the announcement of the lists, contracts worth ₹54,000 crore have been signed for domestic procurement and orders worth ₹4.5 lakh crore were expected to be placed in the next 5 to 7 years, Mr. Singh stated.

Import substitution for ammunition

Like in the two earlier lists, special focus has been given to import substitution for ammunition in the third list, a defence official said. Similarly, one of the technologies handed over by the DRDO to the industry is 125 mm Fin Stabilised Armour Piercing Discarding Sabot (FSAPDS) practice ammunition for training the crews of T-72 and T-90 tanks that constitute the bulk of Army's armoured fleet.

The DRDO said the key attributes of the training ammunition were low-cost, less barrel wear, complete ballistic matching with in-service ammunition, compatible with sighting and fire control systems of T-72 and T-90 tanks, safe for firing at operational temperatures from -10 to +55 degree centigrade and excellent consistency and accuracy.

"The ammunition will help Indian Army in conserving and building up stocks of operational ammunition. It has huge potential for export to countries with T-72 and T-90 tank fleets," a DRDO official said. It was developed by the Armament Research and Development Establishment, Pune.

Strategically important time

S. P. Shukla, president, Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers, said, the third list came at a strategically important time. "Given the current geopolitical scenario, the importance of being self-reliant in defence production is more apparent than ever and the Industry is well poised to manufacture the 101 items indigenously and enhance the operational readiness of our forces."

Welcoming the move **Baba, Kalyani, Chairman and Managing Director, Bharat Forge Limited**, said, "The Indian Defence Industry has been galvanised by the path-breaking policy reforms introduced by the Ministry of Defence in recent years."

In addition, a percentage of the capital outlay of the Defence budget had been reserved for procurement from the domestic industry. For the year 2021-22, about 63% of the capital outlay or about ₹70,221 crore was reserved for procurement from domestic defence industry.

Of the ₹1.52 lakh crore capital allocation in this year's Defence budget, which was meant for new purchases and payments for past procurements, 68% which was ₹84,598 crore from the allocation for the three Services had been reserved for procurement from the domestic industry.

Nirmala's announcement

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced in her Budget speech that in the annual Budget of 2022-23, Defence R&D will be opened up for industry, start-ups and academia and 25% of the Defence R&D budget has also been earmarked for this purpose. In addition, she announced that an independent nodal umbrella body will be set up for meeting wide-ranging testing and certification requirements.

These measures were meant to incentivise the private sector to invest in defence manufacturing, which would also build competition for the Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSU) improving their efficiency. In this direction, the government recently corporatised the Ordnance Factory Board and converted it into seven DPSUs.

Headline: Third Positive Indigenisation List Released by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to Boost Self-Reliance in Defence Manufacturing

Publication : Raksha Anirveda

Date : April 7, 2022

Journalist:

<https://raksha-anirveda.com/third-positive-indigenisation-list-released-by-defence-minister-rajnath-singh-to-boost-self-reliance-in-defence-manufacturing/>

In line with 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' initiative, the government on April 7 has notified a list of items that will be produced indigenously and further increase the procurement of indigenous military platforms for the Indian armed forces from the current USD 10 billion to USD 20 billion by 2025 and also assist in meeting the export target of USD 5 billion. The Ministry of Defence on April 6 in an official statement indicated that orders more than Rs 2, 10,000 crore are expected to be placed on the industry over the next five years.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, speaking at the launch of the Third Positive Indigenisation List said, "It is our endeavour to make India self-reliant in the defence sector, build the capabilities and ecosystems needed for defence exports in times to come." He said, "Today, it gives me great pleasure to release the third positive indigenisation list of 101 defence equipment and platforms to the nation. The release of this list shows the fast pace of our self-reliance in the defence sector."

In the 90s, India was denied super computers by countries who cited various reasons for the refusal. After that, "Our researchers, engineers, and scientists, of The Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) in Pune established their own supercomputer."

The defence minister also talked about the denial of access to knowledge of rocket science and space technology, however with the efforts of the rocket scientists in the country; India has become one of the leading countries in missile technology and space. According to the minister, a contract of Rs 54,000 crore has been made so far and in the next 5-7 years, an order of Rs 4.5 lakh crore is expected to be given based on the first and the second indigenisation lists.

The systems and equipment in the list notified today would be manufactured locally for the Indian Armed Forces and will help in making India a defence manufacturing hub, said Rajnath Singh. Adding, "The third list released today builds on the 101 items in the first one and 108 items in the second, which were promulgated in 2020 and 2021 respectively."

The new list has complex systems and platforms including: Rockets, Naval Utility Helicopters, Patrol vessels for the Indian Navy and Coast Guard, Sensors, Weapons and ammunition, Anti-ship Missile, Anti-radiation missiles, and many more. Many of the complex systems and equipment included in the third list are in the process of being developed and are expected to eventually translate into firm orders from the Indian Armed Forces in the next few years.

The prominent items from the third list include: Mounted Artillery Gun System 155mm/ 52 Cal; 7.62mm x 54 (Sniper) Ammunition; See Through Armour; Light Weight Tanks; 155mm Terminal Guided Munition; Guided Extended Range (GER) Rocket for Pinaka Multiple Launch; Rocket System (MLRS); Armoured Recovery Vehicle (ARV) for MBT Arjun; Portable Helipad; Land Based Tactical Communication System; Next Generation Fast Attack Craft; Next Generation Fast Interceptor Craft; Ship Based Vertical Launched

Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL SRSAM); Instrumented Electronic Warfare Range (IEWR); Range extension Kit (REK) for 450 Kg High Speed (HS) Bomb; Anti-Radiation Missile (ARMs) up to 100 Km.

The government has taken a series of measures to promote domestic defence production in the last few years. Welcoming the third list, SP Shukla, President, SIDM said, “Given the current geopolitical scenario, the importance of being self-reliant in defence production is more apparent than ever.” Adding further, he said that the industry is all set to manufacture the 101 items indigenously and will also enhance the operational readiness of the Indian Armed forces.

Jayant Patil, Immediate Past President, SIDM commented, “The list reaffirms the government’s trust on the capability of the Indian Defence Industry. He said, “The third list will be a shot in the arm to the domestic Defence Industry to realise the Atmanirbhar Vision of Prime Minister Modi. It will help to attain strategic independence in foreign policy- a much desired aim for all Nations in the current global geopolitical situation.”

Thanking the Defence Minister and Ministry of Defence for reposing their trust on the Indian Industry, **Baba Kalyani, Founding President, SIDM**, said, “The Indian Defence Industry has been galvanised by the path-breaking policy reforms introduced by the Ministry of Defence in recent years. The third list is warmly welcomed by the industry.”

Headline: Government to indigenise 101 more weapons and platforms	Publication : Aviation Defence Universe
Date : April 7, 2022	Journalist:

https://www.aviation-defence-universe.com/government-to-indigenise-101-more-weapons-and-platforms/#.Yk86L4_1KzQ.whatsapp

Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh released the third positive indigenisation list of 101 items, comprising major equipment/platforms. The list, notified by Department of Military Affairs, Ministry of Defence (MoD), lays special focus on equipment/systems, which are being developed and likely to translate into firm orders in next five years. These weapons and platforms are planned to be indigenised progressively with effect from December 2022 to December 2027. These 101 items will, henceforth, be procured from local sources as per provisions of Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020.

Today's development follows issue of first list (101) and second list (108) that were promulgated on August 21, 2020 and May 31, 2021 respectively. Import substitution of ammunition which is a recurring requirement has been given special emphasis. The spirit behind issuing these three lists comprising 310 defence equipment, slated to be manufactured locally, reflects the growing confidence of the Government in the capabilities of domestic industry that they can supply equipment of international standards to meet the demand of the Armed Forces. It is likely to stimulate the potential of indigenous Research & Development (R&D) by attracting fresh investment into technology and manufacturing capabilities. It will provide ample opportunities to the domestic industry for understanding the trends and future needs of the Armed Forces.

The industry and industry bodies have reacted positively to this decision. "The 3rd Positive Indigenisation List comes at a strategically important time. Given the current geopolitical scenario, the importance of being self-reliant in defence production is more apparent than ever and the Industry is well poised to manufacture the E 101 items indigenously and enhance the operational readiness of our forces. We welcome this reform with enthusiasm!" said SP Shukla, President, SIDM.

The third list comprises highly complex Systems, Sensors, Weapons and Ammunitions like Light Weight Tanks, Mounted Arty Gun Systems (155mmX 52Cal), Guided Extended Range (GER) Rocket for PINAKA MLRS, Naval Utility Helicopters (NUH), Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessels (NGOPV), MF STAR (Radar For Ships), Medium Range Anti-Ship Missile (Naval Variant), Advance Light Weight Torpedo (Ship Launch), High Endurance Autonomous Underwater Vehicle, Medium Altitude Long Endurance Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (MALE UAV), Anti-Radiation Missiles, Loitering Munitions. Their details are available on the MoD website.

Addressing the audience on the occasion, the Defence Minister described the third list as a symbol of 360-degree efforts being made by the Government to achieve Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'. He exuded confidence that this new list will prove to be crucial in the development of the domestic industry and take research & development and manufacturing capacity of the country to a higher level.

This third positive indigenisation list has been prepared after in-depth consultations with all stakeholders, such as Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO), Department of Defence Production (DDP), Service Headquarters (SHQs) and the private industry. Rajnath Singh assured that, similar to the

previous two lists, the time limit given in the third list will also be adhered to. He said, Ministry of Defence and the Service headquarters will take all necessary steps, including handholding of the industry, reiterating the Government's endeavour to create an ecosystem that ensures self-reliance in defence manufacturing and encourages exports.

"3rd Positive Indigenisation List reaffirms Gol's unwavered trust on the capability of the Indian Defence Industry. The 3 lists provide a shot in the arm to the domestic Defence Industry to realise the Aatmanirbhar Vision of our Prime Minister, build a strong India and attain strategic independence in foreign policy- a much desired aim for all Nations in the current global geopolitical situation, " stated Jayant Patil, Whole Time Director L&T and Immediate Past President, SIDM.

The DRDO, too, pitched in to strengthen local manufacturing by signing 30 Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreements with 25 industries. Raksha Mantri handed over the agreements pertaining to 21 technologies developed by 16 DRDO laboratories spread across the country. These technologies concern Quantum Random Number Generator (QRNG), developed by a DRDO Young Scientist Lab (DYSL- QT, Pune), Counter Drone System, Laser Directed Energy Weapon System, Missile Warhead, High Explosive Materials, High Grade Steel, Specialised Materials, Propellants, Surveillance & Reconnaissance, Radar Warning Receivers, CBRN UGVs, Mine Barriers, Fire Fighting Suits, Boots for Anti Mine, etc. So far, DRDO has entered into more than 1,430 ToT agreements with Indian industries, out of which, a record number of around 450 ToT agreements have been signed in last two years.

"The Indian Defence Industry has been galvanised by the path-breaking policy reforms introduced by the Ministry of Defence in recent years. The 3rd Positive Indigenisation List is another step in this direction and is warmly welcomed by the Industry. I thank the Hon'ble Raksha Mantri ji and Ministry of Defence for reposing this trust on the Indian Industry," said **Baba Kalyani, Founding President, SIDM and Chairman and Managing Director, Bharat Forge Limited.**

Congratulating DRDO and the Industry, Rajnath Singh said, the handing over of 30 ToT agreements to the Industry shows the increasing trust of Indian industries in DRDO-developed indigenous technologies. This will further strengthen the manufacturing eco-system in defence systems and platforms, he said, expressing hope that the private sector will make full use of the opportunities being given to them by the Government in order to make India a global defence manufacturing hub.

Defence Minister & Defence Secretary

Listing out the measures taken by the Government to maximise the participation of the domestic industry, the Defence Minister said, 68 per cent of capital procurement budget has been earmarked for domestic procurement to promote self-reliance & reduce import dependency. The other measures include earmarking of 25 per cent of defence R&D budget for the industry, start-ups and academia and corporatisation of Ordnance Factory Board.

Rajnath Singh pointed out that despite hurdles, India has always performed exceptionally well, on its own, in areas such as nuclear technology and space technology, due to the grit and determination of its scientists & researchers. With the same resolve, India will soon transform into a global manufacturing hub that caters to the domestic requirements, besides being a dominant force in international market, he added.

Headline: India Releases 3rd Indigenisation List of 101 items

Publication : Indian Defence Industries

Date : April 7, 2022

Journalist:

<https://indiandefenceindustries.in/india-releases-3rd-list-of-indigenisation>

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh released the third positive indigenisation list of 101 items, comprising major equipment/platforms, in New Delhi on April 07, 2022. The list, notified by Department of Military Affairs, Ministry of Defence (MoD), lays special focus on equipment/systems, which are being developed and likely to translate into firm orders in next five years. These weapons and platforms are planned to be indigenised progressively with effect from December 2022 to December 2027. These 101 items will, henceforth, be procured from local sources as per provisions of Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020.

Today's development follows issue of first list (101) and second list (108) that were promulgated on August 21, 2020 and May 31, 2021 respectively. Import substitution of ammunition which is a recurring requirement has been given special emphasis. The spirit behind issuing these three lists comprising 310 defence equipment, slated to be manufactured locally, reflects the growing confidence of the Government in the capabilities of domestic industry that they can supply equipment of international standards to meet the demand of the Armed Forces. It is likely to stimulate the potential of indigenous Research & Development (R&D) by attracting fresh investment into technology and manufacturing capabilities. It will provide ample opportunities to the domestic industry for understanding the trends and future needs of the Armed Forces.

The third list comprises highly complex Systems, Sensors, Weapons and Ammunitions like Light Weight Tanks, Mounted Arty Gun Systems (155mmX 52Cal), Guided Extended Range (GER) Rocket for PINAKA MLRS, Naval Utility Helicopters (NUH), Next Generation Offshore Patrol Vessels (NGOPV), MF STAR (Radar For Ships), Medium Range Anti-Ship Missile (Naval Variant), Advance Light Weight Torpedo (Ship Launch), High Endurance Autonomous Underwater Vehicle, Medium Altitude Long Endurance Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (MALE UAV), Anti-Radiation Missiles, Loitering Munitions. Their details are available on the MoD website.

Addressing the audience on the occasion, the he described the third list as a symbol of 360-degree efforts being made by the Government to achieve Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'. He exuded confidence that this new list will prove to be crucial in the development of the domestic industry and take research & development and manufacturing capacity of the country to a higher level.

This third positive indigenisation list has been prepared after in-depth consultations with all stakeholders, such as Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO), Department of Defence Production (DDP), Service Headquarters (SHQs) and the private industry. Shri Rajnath Singh assured that, similar to the previous two lists, the time limit given in the third list will also be adhered to. He said, Ministry of Defence and the Service headquarters will take all necessary steps, including handholding of the industry, reiterating the Government's endeavour to create an ecosystem that ensures self-reliance in defence manufacturing and encourages exports.

The DRDO, too, pitched in to strengthen local manufacturing by signing 30 Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreements with 25 industries. Raksha Mantri handed over the agreements pertaining to 21 technologies developed by 16 DRDO laboratories spread across the country. These technologies concern Quantum Random Number Generator (QRNG), developed by a DRDO Young Scientist Lab (DYSL- QT, Pune), Counter Drone System, Laser Directed Energy Weapon System, Missile Warhead, High Explosive Materials, High Grade Steel, Specialised Materials, Propellants, Surveillance & Reconnaissance, Radar Warning Receivers, CBRN UGVs, Mine Barriers, Fire Fighting Suits, Boots for Anti Mine, etc. So far, DRDO has entered into more than 1,430 ToT agreements with Indian industries, out of which, a record number of around 450 ToT agreements have been signed in last two years.

Congratulating DRDO and the Industry, Rajnath Singh said, the handing over of 30 ToT agreements to the Industry shows the increasing trust of Indian industries in DRDO-developed indigenous technologies. This will further strengthen the manufacturing eco-system in defence systems and platforms, he said, expressing hope that the private sector will make full use of the opportunities being given to them by the Government in order to make India a global defence manufacturing hub.

Listing out the measures taken by the Government to maximise the participation of the domestic industry, the Raksha Mantri said, 68 per cent of capital procurement budget has been earmarked for domestic procurement to promote self-reliance & reduce import dependency. The other measures include earmarking of 25 per cent of defence R&D budget for the industry, start-ups and academia and corporatisation of Ordnance Factory Board.

Rajnath Singh pointed out that despite hurdles, India has always performed exceptionally well, on its own, in areas such as nuclear technology and space technology, due to the grit and determination of its scientists & researchers. With the same resolve, India will soon transform into a global manufacturing hub that caters to the domestic requirements, besides being a dominant force in international market, he added. He described the three lists as a self-imposed vow which can pave the way for a strong and self-reliant 'New India'. He underscored the importance of self-reliance in defence production and promotion in exports, terming it as a crucial aspect which strengthens the economy as well as national security, besides improving the socio-economic condition of the country.

The Raksha Mantri called for indigenous development of defence equipment and platform technologies, stressing that the import of systems, with foreign software codes, can prove to be dangerous for the security apparatus as it opens the window of vulnerability. Emphasising on the need to focus more on indigenisation, he said, "Today, the scope of defence is not limited to borders only. Anyone can now break into the security system of a country with the help of different communication methods. No matter how strong the system is, if it is linked to another country, there is a possibility of a security breach. Earlier, the defense equipment, such as tanks and helicopters, were mainly mechanical in nature. It was not possible to control them. But, newer defense systems and platforms are electronic and software intensive. They can be controlled or subverted from anywhere."

Stressing on domestic production of ammunition as it ensures uninterrupted supply during wars, Shri Rajnath Singh appreciated the fact that full attention has been paid to the import substitution of ammunition in the first two positive indigenisation lists. He said, when orders for defence items are given to domestic defense industry, it provides employment to lakhs of people working in MSMEs connected to the sector, spread across the country.

The Defence Minister maintained that self-reliance does not mean to work in isolation from the rest of the world, but to work with their active participation within the country. "Even under 'Aatmanirbhar

Bharat Abhiyan', we have provisions which provide suitable opportunities and environment to foreign companies to invest, collaborate, set up joint ventures and earn profit," he said. The Minister reaffirmed the Government's constant endeavor to create an environment where public, private sector and foreign entities can work together and help India to become one of the world's leading countries in defence manufacturing.

Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt, Defence Secretary Dr Ajay Kumar, Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhari, Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral R Hari Kumar, Vice Chief of the Army Staff Lt Gen Manoj Pande, Secretary Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr G Satheesh Reddy, other senior civil and military officials of MoD and representatives of the industry were present on the occasion.

It may be recalled that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had on February 25, 2022 during a post budget webinar 'Aatmanirbharta in Defence: Call to Action' appreciated the indigenisation efforts of MoD and announced that the third positive indigenisation list will be promulgated soon.

Baba Kalyani ,Chairman and Managing Director, Bharat Forge Limited -

"The Indian Defence Industry has been galvanised by the path-breaking policy reforms introduced by the Ministry of Defence in recent years. The 3rd Positive Indigenisation List is another step in this direction and is warmly welcomed by the Industry. I thank the Hon'ble Raksha Mantri ji and Ministry of Defence for reposing this trust on the Indian Industry."