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Integrating Defence with IPR (Mission Raksha Gyan Shakti)

By Khurana & Khurana

The Mission Raksha Gyan Shakti was launched by the defence minister in 2018 the objectives it that the mission aimed at fulfilling are stated below. The event was launched with an objective to foster innovations as well as inventions in the IPR Regime. There were also showcased various inventions by the Defence sector such as by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) and Ordnance Factories (OFs) which were successfully filed as IPR applications. Numerous scientists were also facilitated by the then defence minister. Further, panel discussions were held to formulate a strategy as to how IPR and defence can function simultaneously and what would be the future strategies in this regard. The event carried the tagline of “Intellectual Property for Self Reliance in Defence”

Further, the various efforts by the Department of Defence Production and Directorate General Quality Assurance (DGQA) were also appreciated for the effort to spread awareness about IPR which would result in further promotion of various creations, innovations and inventions in the sector of Intellectual Property. It was further highlighted by the then defence minister Smt. Sitharaman that India despite being a knowledge hub since ages, has not been able to utilise its full potential in the field of IPR because of the lack of awareness as regards the protection of Intellectual Properties.

The then Secretary, Defence Production emphasized upon the need to eliminate Transfer of Technology from foreign entities and the need to work upon self-reliance in the Defence sector. Further, the IPR sector has gone on to become a key ingredient stimulating innovation as well as ingenuity in the ecosystem. Considering the same, in April 2018, an IPR Facilitation cell was also established with the aim of training personnel of OFB as well as DSPUs (up to 10,000 personnel) so as to enable the filing of at least 1,000 applications.

As a part of these initiatives, a framework, the “Mission Raksha Gyan Shakti” was instituted which is aimed to boost the IPR culture in the sector of indigenous defence. The DGQA (Directorate General of Quality Assurance) has been conferred the power to coordinate as well as implement the programme. The events end objective is to inculcate and strengthen Intellectual Properties into defence manufacturing.

Various dignitaries including the Chairman of the DRDO, the Secretary of the Department of Defence R&D and senior officers of the three Services as well as Managing Directors of all DPSUs were present at the event.

(The content of this article is intended to provide a general guide to the subject matter. Specialist advice should be sought about your specific circumstances)

<http://www.mondaq.com/india/x/821844/Trademark/Integrating+Defence+With+IPR+Mission+Raksha+Gyan+Shakti>

Budget 2019: Making defence platforms in India should be incentivised, says expert

Budget 2019 India: Over the last few years, the Indian Army has had the largest share in the defence budget, followed by the IAF and the navy, DRDO and Ordnance Factories

By Huma Siddiqui

Union Budget 2019 India: The expectations of the Indian Armed Forces are going to be high on Friday, when the finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who has been a defence minister too will be presenting the budget. Senior officials said that this so because “as a former defence minister she is aware of the challenges and requirements of the service headquarters.”

Says former Deputy Chief of Air Staff, Air Marshal Nirdosh Tyagi (retd), “Capital budget allocation should be at least 25% over the committed liabilities for the year. And remove taxes on capital acquisition till equipment deficiencies exist.”

Though tax reforms were introduced in 2017, under which all the taxes were merged barring the basic customs duty, the three services continue to pay customs duty as well GST on all defence hardware which is imported.

According to him, the old inventory is in need of urgent replacement; therefore, the allocation for the capital budget should be adequate to give momentum to modernization. “Dwindling fighter strength and old transport fleet are some examples,” Tyagi says.

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Also, the private sector participation in defence manufacturing should be encouraged and they should be provided tax relief for the next 5 to 7 years, he adds.

Another former officer pointed out that the slight hike in the defence budget in the last few years has not been enough for the various modernisation programmes of the forces as the chunk of the allocation goes into paying salaries and pensions.

Over the last few years, the Indian Army has had the largest share in the defence budget, followed by the IAF and the navy, DRDO and Ordnance Factories.

Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) report has put India on the fourth position as the largest military spender in 2018 globally, with the United States of America, China, Saudi Arabia topping the list and France holding the fifth position.

Due to geopolitical tensions rising globally, especially between the US and Iran, conflict in the South China Sea, and India’s fight against terrorism with Pakistan make the modernisation of the armed forces more urgent.

Besides being an important strategic requirement, the capability to make the defence equipment in India is a win-win situation for the country, points out Tyagi.

In his opinion making in India will result in saving cost, employment generation and reducing the possibility of sanctions or denial by the supplier nations. However, there is an urgent requirement for structural changes in organisations including the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Ordnance Factory Board (OFB), Directorate General Quality Assurance (DGQA).

<https://www.financialexpress.com/budget/budget-2019-making-defence-platforms-in-india-should-be-incentivised-says-expert/1628779/>