

Tue, 18 Oct, 2016

(Online)

‘For futuristic technology DRDO needs to partner with industry’

New Delhi, Oct 18 (IANS) Scientific Advisor to Minister of Defence G. Satheesh Reddy on Tuesday said the defence industry should use imagination and innovation to build products for tomorrow while DRDO should focus on research and let industry do the rest. Speaking at the inaugural ceremony of ‘DEFTECH 2016 – Realising Make in India through Defence R&D’, organised by CII and supported by the DRDO, Reddy said, “Make in India should not stop at Build to Print. Instead, it should also involve indigenous design, development and manufacturing.”

Reddy said industry should engage with the incubation centres of various universities which would complement the research initiatives of the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO), and added that interactions between the DRDO and the industry are at an all-time high. He said that the government has already included safeguards through policy to ensure that indigenous products get priority even if they are priced a little higher than imports.

Reddy said that in any product development, research and development constitute 15-20 per cent of the work while the rest is engineering. The DRDO should focus on research and let the industry do the rest of the work.

In some of the earlier products the DRDO would do everything. If this continues today, it will be very difficult for the DRDO and the industry to exist, he added. While delivering the special address, Lt. Gen. Subrata Saha, Deputy Chief of Army Staff (Planning & Systems), stated that typically Indian requirements need local solutions and Indian Army would go out of its way to provide an opportunity to replace imports with indigenous products. Pointing out the anomaly of procurement in finding competitive bids for unique products, Lt. Gen. Saha said, that there are some companies who are coming up with unique technologies and we have to find ways to procure these products without going through competitive bids.

The Defence Procurement Procedure is a final looking document but there is still scope for improvement, he added. In his key note address, Baba Kalyani, Chairman, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) National Committee on Defence, said that the in last two years decision making has become faster and the government is addressing many industry issues. –IANS



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DRDO-Industry partnership for strategic and futuristic technology

Strategic and futuristic technology in the defence sector can only come through a real partnership with industry, said Dr G Satheesh Reddy, Scientific Advisor to Defence Minister, while speaking at the inaugural ceremony of ‘DEFTECH 2016 – Realising Make in India through Defence R&D’, organised by Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and supported by the Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO).

“Industry should use imagination and innovation to build products for tomorrow,” he stated.

The seminar aimed at enhancing partnership of industry in defence research and development with DRDO. Dr Reddy urged the industry to engage with the incubation centres of various universities which would complement the research initiatives of DRDO. He added that interactions between DRDO and industry are at an all-time high.

Dr Reddy said that Make in India concept has been well received. However, he cautioned that Make in India should not stop at Build to Print. Instead, it should also involve indigenous design, development and

manufacturing. He added that the Government has already included safeguards through policy to ensure that indigenous products get priority even if they are priced a little higher than imports.

Lt Gen Subrata Saha, Deputy Chief of Army Staff (Planning & Systems), stated that during the course of travel, he felt that solutions to the Army's needs should come locally and added that the Army would go out of their way to provide an opportunity to replace imports with indigenous products.

Baba Kalyani, Chairman, CII National Committee on Defence & Chairman, Bharat Forge, applauded the efficiency of the DRDO regarding India's quest towards self-reliance. He said that decision making has become faster in the last two years as several issues are being addressed.

Keeping in mind Prime Minister's vision of developing India's technology, Kalyani said that the DRDO should now develop products which would be futuristic in nature.

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