

SELF RELIANCE IN DEFENCE ACQUISITION - A CONTRIBUTOR TO THE 'MAKE IN INDIA' INITIATIVE

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Abstract

India is one of the largest importers of Defence equipment, with nearly 30% of it spent on Capital Acquisitions. Defence Acquisition is a complex process, which involves policy making, policy making project management, with sufficient expertise in military technology. The Defence Procurement Procedure has been undergoing major reforms since the year 2001, thereby progressively laying focus on self-reliance, indigenous substitution and development. Various policy and procedural reforms enabled over the years are discussed. The salient features of the recently issued DPP-2016 have been analysed in depth. The paper highlighted the perspective of the Services in undertaking advance planning and selection of a procurement scheme under the "Make" category of DPP-2016. The paper lays its hand on the International Best practices followed in Defence Acquisition by few developed and developing countries and brings out salient features in them, which could be emulated by India for overall enhancement in efficiency of the procurement process. The paper renders various recommendations with a view to improve the overall target of self-reliance and wider participation of the Indian Industry.

Keywords: Self-reliance; DPP; Make procedure; Industry participation