

■ Govt Enhances TDF to Rs 50 Cr to Encourage Atmanirbharta in Defence

The Ministry of Defence has approved the enhancement of funding under Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme to Rs 50 crore per project from Rs 10 crore. The TDF scheme supports indigenous development of components, products, systems and technologies by MSMEs and start-ups. The scheme aims to provide a major fillip to the defence manufacturing sector by encouraging the industry to innovate and develop defence technologies to place India on the 'Atmanirbhar' (self-reliance) trajectory. In Union Budget 2022-23, 25 per cent of defence R&D budget was earmarked for private industry, start-ups and academia.