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Amrit Kaal vision to see India among top 5 countries in defence production: Def Secy

PTI - Thursday



Efforts are being made to “unleash the energy” of the Make-in-India initiative in the defence sector and the country’s Amrit Kaal vision is to see India among the top five countries globally in defence production, a senior official said on Thursday.

During an interaction held at an event here, Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar also said that in the last 75 years, India has continued to be one of the largest importers of defence products in the world, and this is the situation the government wishes to change.



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The defence production in the world is being done by a handful of countries, and if one looks at the defence industry globally, five countries account for a very large chunk of the defence production.

“And, these countries are the five permanent members of the UN Security Council,” he said.

“So, the aspiration of India to become an influence in the world in the next 25 years is closely linked to development of defence industry capabilities,” he said, adding, the overall influence the defence industry creates in the world is huge.



“Efforts are being made to unleash the energy of the country’s Make-in-India initiative as a

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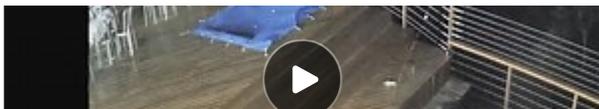
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 News18

'Jaage Ho': When PM Modi Phoned S Jaishankar, Asked for Info on Evacuation of Indians from Afghanistan

Shankhyaneel Sarkar - Friday



Speaking at an event in New York, the external affairs minister recalled how PM Modi kept himself abreast of the developments when [India](#) was evacuating its own citizens from [Afghanistan](#) following the Taliban takeover in 2021.



L 'Jaage Ho': When PM Modi Phoned S Jaishankar, Asked for Info on Evacuation of Indians from Afghanistan
© Provided by News18

[#WATCH](#) | NY, US: Recounting India's evacuation effort from Afghanistan, EAM Jaishankar says, "It was past midnight... PM called me, his first question was – "Jaage ho?"... I apprised him that help is on its way. He told me to call him when it's done... that's a singular quality." pic.twitter.com/AxL7Ddp6d6

– ANI (@ANI) [September 23, 2022](#)

"We were juggling for phones and keeping the courage up at the (other) end. My phone rang. Normally when the Prime Minister calls there is no caller ID. It sort of took me by surprise," the Union minister said.

The foreign minister recounted the events ahead of the evacuation of citizens from Mazar-e-Sharif, a city in north Afghanistan, close to Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. The city fell to the Taliban days before the terrorist group took control of Kabul.

Jaishankar spoke about deliberations regarding evacuation of Indian citizens with a foreign warlord who would help in the process, while the consulate in Mazar-e-Sharif was under attack.

(1/2) A special flight is leaving from Mazar-e-Sharif to New Delhi. Any Indian nationals in and around Mazar-e-Sharif are requested to leave for India in the special flight scheduled to depart late today evening.

– India in Mazar (@IndianConsMazar) [August 10, 2021](#)

"On the no caller ID somebody usually connects you. This time it was the prime minister. His first question was – Jaage ho? (Are you awake?) At 12:30 of course, what else would I be doing? In his life, it must be normal," Jaishankar said in jest

