

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1903  
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2001  
PRODUCTION OF 5.56 MM INSAS RIFLES  
PRENEET KAUR

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether Ordnance Factories have developed 5.56 mm INSAS Rifle, which is superior to A.K. series weapon both in respect of accuracy and lethality;
- (b) if so, the reasons which prompted the Government to invite global tenders to import A.K. Rifles at the enhanced scale;
- (c) whether the Ordnance factories are in a position for large scale production of the INSAS rifles to meet the demand of security forces engaged in activities in N.E. region and Kashmir;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) if not, the steps taken for their large scale production?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) Proposal for import of AK-47 rifle was initiated in 1993 prior to commencement of regular supply of 5.56 mm INSAS by the Ordnance Factories. The import fructified in 1995. Subsequent procurement of 3600 Under Barrel Grenade Launcher system was done with compatible AK-47 rifles. No separate global tenders for procurement of AK-47 rifles have been floated since 1995.
- (c) & (d): Ordnance Factories are supplying 5.56mm INSAS Rifle to the services and Para Military Forces as per their requirement.
- (e): Does not arise.