

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2217
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2000
ACTION TAKEN NOTES ON CAG'S OBSERVATIONS ON DEFENCE MATTERS
CHANDRA NATH SINGH;SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of C.A.G.'s observations/findings on defence matters pending with his Ministry as on date and the date since when these are pending;
- (b) the reasons for not submitting the Action Taken Notes so far and the steps taken to submit the same now;
- (c) whether a group of officers is proposed to be set up to scrutinise all the pending observations of the C.A.G. and fix responsibility for the lapses; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE

(SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): Actions Taken Notes (ATNs) are to be submitted by the Ministry of Defence in respect of approximately 120 paras of Reports of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India up to their 1998 Report. Out of these, ATNs had been submitted in respect of 88 paras for vetting by the Audit authorities. These ATNs are either pending with the Audit or further information/clarifications have been sought on them. In a few cases, the submission of ATNs is under process as inquiries to ascertain the facts have not been completed or the relevant details have still not been made available by the concerned organisation/Service Hqrs. Instructions have been issued to all concerned to expeditiously finalise the ATNs. The year-wise details of pending ATNs are as below.

Year of Report No.of Pending Paras

1989	1
1990	2
1991	3
1992	3
1993	10
1994	7
1995	8
1996	12
1997	26
1998	51

(c) & (d): A special group of officers headed by the Chief Vigilance Officer of the Ministry of Defence, who is in the rank of a Joint Secretary to the Government of India, has been constituted to ensure prompt and effective follow up action on all major observations of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India pertaining to procurement of arms, ammunitions, spares, their storage, transfer of technology, indigenisation and other related aspects. This group will identify the important observations/findings of the C&AG in last 15 years for necessary corrective action and to fix responsibility for lapses/delays/corrupt practices, if any for necessary administrative, disciplinary/legal action.