

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:806  
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2000  
AUTONOMY TO ARMY FOR PURCHASE OF ARMS  
MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARY

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

- (a) whether demands are being raised repeatedly to give autonomy to the Army in the matter of purchase of arms;
- (b) if so, whether the Government have considered the matter so far; and
- (c) if so, the outcome thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) & (c): However, the Group of Ministers set up to review the management of defence and to consider the recommendations of the Kargil Review Committee have set up a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Shri Arun Singh. The terms of reference of the Task Force, inter-alia, include recommending such organisational and other changes as are considered appropriate to bring about improvements in the procurement process, keeping in view the imperative of ensuring accountability for proper expenditure of public funds, as also the need to have time bound decisions.