

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3937  
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2000  
M.E.S. PROJECTS RUNNING BEHIND SCHEDULE  
PUTTASWAMY GOWDA;UTTAMRAO NATHUJI DHIKALE

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

- (a) the details of Military Engineering Service (MES) projects running behind schedule as on date;
- (b) the reasons therefor;
- (c) the extent of cost escalation, project-wise; and
- (d) the steps taken to complete the projects expeditiously?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) Out of 318 MES Projects sanctioned by Ministry of Defence for all the three Defence Services, and by Department of Defence Production & Supplies for its organisations, 81 works are behind schedule.

(b) The reasons generally are:

- (i) slow progress by Contractor;
- (ii) delay in acquisition of land;
- (iii) change in scope of work;
- (iv) delay in receiving necessary clearances from local authorities, etc.

(c) Out of these 81 works, cost overruns are expected only in 8 works to the extent of approximately Rs. 20.5 crores. Out of which approximately Rs. 18 crores is on the risk and cost of the Contractors.

(d) All out efforts are being made to complete the projects in time by the ground executives. The delayed projects are being closely monitored by E-in-C's Branch, Army Headquarters and Ministry of Defence to obviate any cost & time overruns. Certain selective projects are being planned and executed as fast track projects with no escalation cost.