

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:132
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2005
PROCUREMENT OF LPD WARSHIP FROM USA
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) Whether the Government is considering to purchase Landing Platform Dock (LPD) warship from United States of America;
- (b) if so, whether talks have been held between the two countries in this regard;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the said LPD warship is almost four decades old; and
- (e) if so, the reasons for purchasing an old LPD warship?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) to (e): A case for acquiring Landing Platform Dock (LPD), which is almost four decades old, from the USA is being processed. Discussions have, however, been held with USA regarding this proposal. A naval delegation has also assessed the LPD and estimated its residual life to be between 12-15 years. The ship could provide the Indian Navy enhanced amphibious capability. In addition, the LPD can be deployed for disaster relief operations. It can also function as a command and control platform during mishaps at sea like offshore oil installation fires and maritime air accidents.