

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:193

ANSWERED ON:23.02.2010

PROCUREMENT OF BULLET PROOF JACKETS

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Deora Shri Milind Murl;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been delay in the procurement of bullet proof jackets for the various security forces in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether test reports of the samples of the bullet proof jackets submitted by the bidders have been scrapped by the Government following reports of irregularities in the testing procedures;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government against the persons responsible for such irregularities; and
- (e) the details of the steps taken by the Government to ensure high standards in the procurement of bullet proof jackets in a time bound manner?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

- (a) Yes, Madam, the process has taken more time than anticipated.
- (b) The tender was opened on 27.07.2009. The testing and evaluation of samples was completed by 30th October 2009. Subsequently a number of representations were received from the participants. The Tender Advisory Committee (TAC) consulted the Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC) and the MHA regarding the issues raised in the representations. However, on 6th January 2010 when it became known that a scientist of DRDO had compromised the technical evaluation, the opening of technical bids was deferred and the de-nova technical evaluation was directed.
- (c) Yes, Madam.
- (d) Prima facie, it appears from a recorded conversation with a vendor that the DRDO scientist had made certain claims. To avoid any suspicion of bias, MHA decided to do a fresh technical evaluation.

The MHA has recommended to the Ministry of Defence that Disciplinary action may be initiated against the scientist of TBRL, Chandigarh, for the above stated misconduct resulting in compromising the Technical Evaluation Process.
- (e) The TEC has been reconstituted, testing protocol has been meticulously drawn up, timeframes have been revisited & refined and it has been directed that representatives of bidders should be present during the evaluation. The entire proceedings would also be recorded on video.