

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1763

ANSWERED ON:08.03.2010

MODERNISATION OF ARMY

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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to phase out obsolete infantry weapons being used in field formations and against terrorists;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons for inordinate delay in acquiring the basic fighting weapons and equipment worth several crores as reported recently;
- (c) the changes to be effected in the procurement policy in this regard;
- (d) the details of steps taken for modernization of the artillery;
- (e) the status of procurement of equipment/weapons like howitzer guns, rifles, grenades, mine protected vehicles, snow-scooters etc.; and
- (f) the time by which the induction of new weapons and equipment is likely to be completed?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (f): Replacement of the old weapon systems with the new systems including infantry and artillery is an ongoing process based on the operational requirements of the Army and qualitative requirements in force. Procurement of such equipment is in accordance with the Defence Procurement Policy which is revised and updated periodically.