

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:434
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2010
DELIVERY OF SCORPENE SUBMARINES
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Tewari Shri Manish

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a delay in the delivery of the Scorpene submarines to be supplied by a French Company;
- (b) if so, the causes of the delay and the fresh delivery schedule;
- (c) whether the delay in the delivery is likely to lead to an escalation of the project cost, and if so, the anticipated revised project cost and the agencies/authorities liable to pay the enhanced revised cost;
- (d) the impact of the slippage in the delivery schedule on the indigenous component of the project i.e. six submarines to be manufactured by Mazagon Docks; and
- (e) the manner in which this gap in submarine capacity would effect on our defence preparedness especially in comparison to Pakistan and China?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 434 FOR ANSWER ON 26.4.2010

A programme for construction of six Scorpene class submarines is currently underway at M/s. Mazagon Docks Limited under transfer of technology from a French company. As per the contract, the 1st submarine was scheduled to be delivered in December 2012 and thereafter one each every year till December 2017. There has been delay due to initial teething problems, absorption of technology, augmentation of MDL infrastructure and procurement of MDL Purchased Material (MPM). The 1st submarine is now expected to be delivered in the second half of 2015.

The Government has recently accorded approval for revision in the cost of the Scorpene submarines project on account of increase in the cost of MPM items, related subheads and additional MDL infrastructure.

A significant indigenous competence in submarine construction, especially in the field of hull fabrication, outfitting, system integration etc. would be achieved by end of the programme.

Delay in scheduled delivery of submarines is likely to have an impact on the envisaged force level. However, the gap in submarine capacity has been addressed by modernization/upgradation with the state-of-the-art weapon and sensor fit on the existing submarines which have significantly enhanced their combat worthiness against any eventuality.