

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:458
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2010
WEAPONS TO PERSONNEL OF COBRA FORCES
Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are reports that Commando Battalion for Resolute Actions (CoBRAs) operating in hazardous and risky environment have been provided with R-IV category weapons, which need repairs at factory level;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to equip the CoBRA with modern weaponry, protective gears and special equipments, including state-of-the-art communication set to effectively communicate during the real contingencies inside the hilly and inaccessible terrain; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

Answer

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

(a): No, Madam.

(b): Commando Battalions for Resolute Action (CoBRA) Units have been set up for guerilla / jungle warfare operations for dealing with extremists and insurgent which involves high level risk to the life of personnel. CoBRA units have been authorised with modern weapons and all the weapons provided are serviceable. Even if the weapon got damaged to R.IV category during operations, the Force is having the facility for its repair. Moreover, 10% of the total authorisation of weapons is kept as Force Reserve to meet any contingencies.

(c): All possible modern weaponry and equipments including communication equipments and protective gears have been provided to CoBRA Units based on the ground necessity. These authorisation, however, are open for revision to cope up with the operational need.

(d): The Government has taken various steps in this regard, the details of which, in the public interest, cannot be disclosed.