

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:306

ANSWERED ON:16.08.2010

SUBMARINE FLEET

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Navy will be hit by the delay in the manufacturing of the French Scorpene Submarines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the delivery of submarines has also been adversely affected due to the work overload on Mazagon Dockyard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to associate indigenous/foreign private shipping companies; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): The delay in the scheduled delivery 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.

(c) & (d): The delay is not due to work overload on Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL). MDL has a separate line for submarine construction and is in the process of making one more line. However, delivery schedule of submarines was adversely affected due to initial teething problems, absorption of technology, augmentation of MDL infrastructure and procurement of MDL Purchased Material (MPM) items.

(e) & (f): There are no indigenous/foreign private companies in India that could have individually made full Scorpene submarines. However, MDL is outsourcing works relating to this project to capable Indian companies.