

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4162  
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2011  
MARK-II VERSION OF ARJUN TANK  
Jindal Shri Naveen

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Mark-II version of Arjun Main Battle Tank has been undergoing trials as reported recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there is proposal to place production orders on the Heavy Vehicles Factory, Avadi, Chennai;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the estimated cost involved therein; and
- (e) the time by which the said tanks are likely to be inducted in Army?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) & (b): No, Madam. However, limited technical trials with some major and minor improvements on Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun Mark-I, as part of MBT Arjun Mark-II, have been carried out by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in the deserts of Rajasthan.
- (c) Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) has cleared the proposal for placement of indent for 124 Nos. of MBT Arjun Mark-II on Heavy Vehicles Factory (HVF), Avadi, Chennai. Placement of indent by the Army on Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) is being further processed.
- (d) The likely estimated cost of each MBT Arjun Mark-II with all major/minor improvements will be approximately ` 37 Crore.
- (e) The first batch of MBT Arjun Mark-II is likely to be productionised by 2015.