

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:423  
ANSWERED ON:07.05.2012  
SHORTAGE OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION  
Singh Shri Jitender ;Singh Shri Rakesh

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

- (a) whether there is any shortage of arms and equipment in the Armed Forces, especially Army, as reported recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including its impact on the war capabilities of the Forces;
- (c) whether the stock of ammunition for the tanks, missiles and other weapons is adequate and if not, the details thereof;
- (d) the part of total Defence Budget spent on the said items during the last three years;
- (e) whether there have been inordinate delays in procurement of arms and ammunition and if so, the specific measures being taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (f) whether the Government has inter-alia resorted to fast-track procedure for procurement of arms and ammunition and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (c): Madam, Arms, equipment and ammunition in the Armed Forces including Army are by and large available in adequate quantity. However, shortages occur from time to time for which remedial action is taken. The Armed Forces remain in a state of operational readiness to meet any eventuality.

(d) The details of expenditure incurred on capital acquisition by the Armed forces during last three years is as below:-

Year	BE	RE	Actual
	Expenditure		

2009-10	40367.72	35146.88	38427.00
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2010-11	43799.21	44440.63	45686.77
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2011-12	52998.02	47409.45	50359.93
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(Provisional)

Percentage of actual Capital expenditure for modernization against the total defence expenditure for the last three years i.e. 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 was 27.1%, 29.6% and 29.6% respectively.

Total supplies made by Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) to the Armed Forces during the last three years are Rs.7503 cr in 2009-10, Rs.9799 cr. in 2010-11 and Rs.10671 cr in 2011-12.

(e) Acquisition of arms and ammunition for Armed forces is a complex activity and is carried out in accordance with provisions of the Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) and Defence Procurement Manual (DPM). As per broad timeframe given in DPP, it takes about 2-3 years to complete the various stages of procurement and conclude the contract. However, delays sometimes occur in procurement cases due to several reasons, such as limited vendor base, non-conformity of offers to the Request of Proposal (RFP) conditions, problems with GSQRs, delays in trials and complexities in contract negotiations.

The procedure for Defence procurement was initially formalized in 1992 and revamped in 2002. To counter systemic and institutional delays, procedures are continuously reviewed and refined on the basis of experience gained during the procurement process. DPP has been amended in 2006, 2008, 2009 and 2011.

(f) The Defence Procurement Procedure has provision for Fast Track Procurement (FTP) for meeting urgent operational requirements foreseen as imminent or for situations where crisis emerges without prior warning.

FTP has not been resorted to during 2011-12.