

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:616
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012
TIME AND COST OVERRUNS OF DRDO PROJECTS
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several projects of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) are suffering from time and cost overruns;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether some technologies developed by the DRDO have not been suitable for use by the armed forces and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether even after almost 55 years of DRDO's establishment which aimed at indigenizing defence production, India still imports 70% of its defence equipment requirements; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): The following are the on-going projects sanctioned by the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) for which Probable Dates of Completion (PDC) have been extended and costs have been enhanced:-

- # Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Phase-II.
- # Naval Version of LCA Phase-I.
- # Airborne Early Warning & Control (AEW&C) System.
- # Aero Engine Kaveri.

The PDC and cost of these projects have been revised due to various reasons, like change in scope, ab-initio development of the state-of-the-art technologies, technical/technological complexities, build-up of test facilities, non-availability of critical components / equipment / materials and denial of technologies by the technologically advanced countries, extended trials, increase in cost of materials and manpower, etc.

(c) DRDO has developed a number of systems/technologies which include missiles; unmanned aerial vehicles; radars; electronic warfare systems; sonars; torpedos; combat vehicles; bridging systems; combat aircraft; sensors; NBC technologies; parachutes; propellants and explosives; detonators; communication systems; etc. A large number of DRDO developed systems/technologies have been productionised and inducted into Armed Forces.

(d) & (e): Achieving the goal of indigenisation in defence production is a joint effort of Ministry of Defence (MoD), Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs), Ordnance Factories (OFs), Private Industries and DRDO. The following measures have been taken to improve indigenisation in defence production:-

- # Top down approach to initiate R&D within Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), with academic institutions and other scientific bodies.
- # Bottom up futuristic R&D through domestic and international collaborative research.
- # Close working with the three Services to forecast and develop systems indigenously through "MAKE" by DRDO and "MAKE" by Industry.