

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:667
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012
MODERNISATION OF ARTILLERY
De Dr. Ratna

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken steps for modernisation of artillery of the Indian Army;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the time by which the project is likely to be completed?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The modernization of Artillery is being undertaken on a continuous basis. The following equipment has been inducted / upgraded into the Artillery:-

- (i) Pinaka Rocket System;
- (ii) Smerch Rocket System.
- (iii) BrahMos Missile System.
- (iv) Upgradation of 130mm gun to 155mm / 45 calibre.

Procurement action is on going for the following gun systems:

- (i) 155mm / 39 calibre Ultra Light Howitzer.
- (ii) 155 / 45 Calibre Gun from Ordnance Factory Board (OFB).
- (iii) 155mm / 52 calibre Towed Gun.
- (iv) 155mm / 52 calibre Tracked (Self Propelled) Gun.
- (v) 155mm / 52 calibre Mounted Gun System.

(c) Acquisition of weapons and equipment for Armed forces is a complex activity and is carried out in accordance with the provisions of Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP). The procurement cycle takes about 2-3 years for finalization of contracts, but can vary depending on the complexity of the issues involved.