

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2430
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2012
QUALITY OF DEFENCE EQUIPMENT
Tharoor Shri Shashi

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been complaints regarding quality of defence equipment developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any steps are being taken to improve the quality of equipment developed by DRDO and if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether there is a mechanism to return equipment that is found to be substandard by the forces after it has been inducted and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): There is a set laid down procedure in Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP) for development of an equipment. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is involved in development of state-of-the-art equipment for the Armed Forces. DRDO developed systems are evaluated by the Users through various phases of User Trials complying GSQR parameters. Subsequently, each system is put through Maintainability Evaluation Trial (MET), Director General of Quality Assurance (DGQA) and General Staff (GS) Evaluation. Once the system is cleared by GS Evaluation, it is inducted into Services. Production order to designated Production Agency is released by the User only after trials and evaluations have been successfully completed. Any shortcomings noticed after induction are attended by Production Agency. During the production, quality is assured by the DGQA. Wherever the quality issues are related to design aspects, DRDO takes corrective steps. DRDO undertakes product improvement / upgrades as required by Services. DRDO also provides handholding to Production Agency as well as User through Production Support Group created in the laboratory for post project activities after equipment is inducted in Services.

(c) Defence Procurement Procedures (DPP) do not allow induction of a sub-standard equipment developed by Developing Agency as every equipment goes through stringent quality control and various type of trials defined by Users.