

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:53
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009
OPERATION OF T-72 TANKS
Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the T-72 Tanks fleet are used in the Army optimally;
- (b) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the night fighting capabilities with state-of-the-art thermal imaging is/has been undertaken; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (d): The T-72 tank fleet is being optimally used and is the mainstay of the present tank fleet. The entire fleet of this tank is fully battle worthy with high mission and operational reliability.

Out of the total holding of the tanks, a part of it is already equipped with high end technology night vision device which has been fully integrated and exploited. Further, the process of upgrading the night fighting capabilities with the state-of-the-art thermal imaging is an ongoing process.