

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:587  
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009  
SUPPLY OF ALUMINIUM CASKETS AND BODY BAGS  
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the Research and Development Establishment (R&DE) (Engineer) was assigned to develop aluminium caskets and body bags to fit Indian parameters;
- (b) if so, whether R&DE delivered casket and body bags less in weight and price as compared to the imported version;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, including the orders placed by the Government in this regard so far;
- (d) whether these two items have great potential for civilian use; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) & (b): The Research and Development Establishment (R&DE) (Engineers), an establishment of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on its own initiative, developed Aluminium Casket and Body Bag during 2004-2005. The weight of the Casket was 42 Kg and Body Bag was 1.8 Kg. The costs of R&DE(E) developed prototype Casket and Body Bag were Rs.40,000/- and Rs.2,500/-, respectively during 2004-2005.
- (c) No orders have been placed on R&DE(E).
- (d) & (e): Yes, Madam. These two items have potential for civilian use for respectful transportation of the mortal remains. These may have applications in Hospitals, Disaster Management Cells, Police Departments, Paramilitary Organizations, etc.