

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3635

ANSWERED ON:03.09.2012

IRREGULARITIES IN DRDO

Abdulrahman Shri ;Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram ;Shekhar Shri Neeraj;Singh Shri Yashvir

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several serious financial and other irregularities have been found in Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in an internal audit report of the Defence Ministry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the criteria adapted by DRDO to sanction projects and the authorities / agencies authorized to relax the norms;
- (d) whether the Government has inquired into the matter and has fixed responsibility with regard to the alleged irregularities;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof and action taken against the persons found guilty; and
- (f) whether the Government also proposes to institute an inquiry into the alleged corruption in the recruitment in DRDO conducted by the Centre for Personnel Talent Management and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) & (b): An Internal Audit of sanctions issued under delegated powers by various Competent Financial Authorities was carried out as an internal review exercise in the entire Ministry of Defence including Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). The concerns raised by the Internal Audit are essentially in the nature of preliminary observations and DRDO has already responded to them.
- (c) DRDO undertakes different types of projects, namely Mission Mode, Technology Demonstration, Science & Technology and Infrastructure Development. There are well established guidelines, which are followed for sanctioning the projects. Depending on the cost of the project, Competent Financial Authorities are defined. In rare cases, where relaxation of the guidelines is required, for example, the Peer Review at pre-sanction stage has to be relaxed, Competent Financial Authority takes the decision.
- (d) & (e): No, Madam. Since the concerns raised by Internal Audit are in the nature of preliminary observations at this stage, the question does not arise.
- (f) No case of corruption in the recruitment by Centre for Personnel Talent Management (CEPTAM) has been found, therefore, Question to institute an inquiry does not arise.