

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2759
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012
SHORTAGE OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the former Army Chief had cautioned the Government about the viability of ammunitions that could last hardly for four days;
- (b) whether about 95 per cent of Air Defence System have become outdated;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government has signed defence deal worth crores of rupees with a defence export company of Russia, Rosoboron for the procurement of ammunitions;
- (e) if so, whether the ordnance factories of India are not in position to manufacture sufficient ammunitions; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) to (c): Arms and ammunitions including those for Air Defence System are available in adequate quantity. However, some deficiencies do exist in some categories of ammunition for which procurement processes are regularly undertaken to keep the Army in a state of readiness. Besides, modernization of Army, which includes replacement of older equipment, is an on-going process and is given priority to ensure that the Forces remain equipped with modern weapon systems.
- (d) Yes, the Government has signed contracts with M/s. Rosoboronexport, from time to time for procurement of required ammunitions.
- (e) & (f): To cater to the requirement of various types of ammunition for the Indian Army, different sources of supply including the Ordnance Factory Board, are regularly awarded procurement contracts.