

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:123

ANSWERED ON:13.07.2009

MBT ARJUN

Panda Shri Prabodh;Raghavendra Shri B. Y.

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

- (a) whether the Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun inducted in Army has become fully operational;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to procure such item from foreign sources also; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 123 FOR ANSWER ON 13-07-2009.

So far 47 MBT Arjun tanks have been issued to the Army. Army is now in the process of equipping the first regiment of Arjun. Since the regiment was earlier equipped with T-55 tanks, the officers and crew have to be trained in the new tank which is known as conversion training. The tanks would become fully operational after the conversion training.

Orders for 124 Arjun tanks have so far been placed on the Heavy Vehicles Factory, Avadi, of which 47 tanks have been supplied.

Government had decided in 2007 to import 347 T-90 tanks from Russia of which 124 will be fully formed and the balance would be SKD/CKD kits to be assembled at Heavy Vehicles Factory, Avadi. There is no proposal to import more of such equipment at present.