

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4428
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2013
DNA PROFILING OF INDIAN SOLDIERS
Thakur Shri Anurag Singh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has implemented the Armed Forces Medical Services' (AMFS) project to carry out DNA profiling of nearly 1.13 million Indian soldiers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has an existing procedure to identify each soldier, especially those deployed in the forward areas, in case of deaths in the battlefield or in action;
- (d) if so, the details of this procedure; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): Armed Forces Medical Research Committee (AFMRC) approved a pilot project (2012-2014) titled "Development of Protocol for DNA Profiling (Identification) and Repository of Personnel of Armed Forces". This pilot project is in progress at Armed Forces Medical College, Pune. The objectives of the project are to devise a protocol for collection, preservation and transportation of blood samples of the soldiers, maintain absolute accuracy in personal information and tagging of specimen and to devise protocol for procedure for identifying service personnel from any fragment of body tissue.

(c) & (d): Army has a well established procedure / system for identification of a soldier in the forward / battle zone. A soldier is either part of a sub unit (section, platoon etc.) deployed on the border and every one recognizes him due to his physical attributes, or he moves out with a companion. Never a soldier is left alone in these areas. In addition every personnel has two metallic discs, one tied to his neck and other on the wrist. These discs have his Army Number engraved for identification.

(e) Does not arise.