

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:486
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013
ULH GUNS
Bishnoi Shri Kuldeep

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has held up the purchase of 145 Ultra Light Howitzer (ULH) artillery guns from the United States;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor along with the details of technical parameters, cost effectiveness and economic viability of the guns; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by the Government to enhance the fire power of armed forces especially in mountain regions?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): No, Madam. The Government is proposing the procurement of 145 Ultra Unit Howitzers through the Foreign Military sale route as per Defence Procurement Procedure.

(c) The Upgradation / modernization of the Artillery is being undertaken as per road map laid down in Artillery Profile 2027, which envisages induction of long range guns and rockets with adequate firepower for the mountain regions.