

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:490
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013
PRODUCTION OF UNDERWATER VEHICLES
Kumar Shri P.

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is considering to rollout its underwater vehicles;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether DRDO has already commenced work on a yet-to-be-sanctioned Rs.250 crore programme for developing a range of Autonomous Underwater Vehicles for a variety of roles as force multipliers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) & (b): Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed a technology demonstrator Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV) which has a flatfish configuration and can carry a payload upto 500 kg. The AUV can be launched by a Launch & Recovery System that maintains the AUV in position for initialization of the sensors and lowering it to sea for the mission.
- (c) & (d): The project proposal for development of AUVs for various roles based on inputs from Navy, academia, industry and scientific laboratories is at preliminary stage.