

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3970
ANSWERED ON:20.03.2015
FUTURE MAIN BATTLE TANK
Singh Deo Shri Kalikesh Narayan

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been delay in the implementation of the Future Main Battle Tank (FMBT) projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether this delay is seriously undermining India's domestic defence capabilities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken / being taken by the Government to overcome the delay and equip Indian army with MBTs at the earliest?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) to (e): No, Madam. Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun, a multidisciplinary Armoured Fighting Vehicle developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), has already been inducted into the Indian Army. DRDO is presently engaged in the development of Arjun MBT Mk-II with 73 tank related improvements (including 18 major improvements), as on date, over MBT Mk-I. DRDO has taken proactive measures and decided to go-ahead with the following enabling & critical advance technologies development projects, so as to fill-up the technological gap and as well as to reduce the foreign dependence for all the future Armoured Fighting Vehicles (AFVs):

Design and development of engine. Design vetting of automatic transmission system, which is to be followed-up by a technology development project. All electric drive for gun control system. Active protection system. Missile development.