

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3353

ANSWERED ON:05.08.2016

Artillery Modernization Programme

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

- (a) whether the Government has started artillery modernization programme of Indian Army and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether DRDO has conducted the technical trials including proof firing of armament system for 155 mm x 52 mm caliber Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS) and if so, the details and the outcome thereof;
- (c) the details of the Indian companies which participated in the said programme;
- (d) the features of the said ATAGS along with the time by which it is likely to be ready for user trials; and
- (e) the steps taken / being taken by the Government to meet the artillery requirement of Indian Army indigenously?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) to (e): Artillery Modernisation is an on-going process and is based on the Long Term Perspective Plan 2012-27. The Government has accorded approval for procurement of new artillery guns through five cases, that also involve indigenous production.

DRDO has undertaken a Mission Mode project for Design & Development of 155 mm x 52 mm caliber Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS). Apart from Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) and DPSUs, four private Indian companies are participating in the ATAGS programme. As per programme, technical and User trials are scheduled in March and December, 2017 respectively.

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