

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:698
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2000
DEFECTIVE TANK BARRELS
T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Army had to withdraw 770 defective tank gun barrels for its frontline T-72 tanks as they were manufactured by using a defective process by an ordnance factory;
- (b) whether there were atleast 36 accidents involving the defective barrels and 11 of them cracked or burst during firing; and
- (c) if so, the action taken by the Government against the officials of the ordnance factory which produced the defective tank barrels?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES (SHRI HARIN PATHAK)

(a) to (c): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 698 FOR 27.7.2000

1. Incidents of Barrel Burst till date have been 44. Of these, 22 Barrels each are from imported and indigenous origin. Indigenous manufacture of Barrels has been established in accordance with technology regime of the collaborators and under the supervision of Russian specialists.

2. A Committee which included specialists from Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA), MIDHANI, Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) and Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted investigations associating Russian Specialists also. Failures have occurred with use of both imported and indigenous ammunition. In the absence of any particular pattern of failure of barrels, no definite conclusion could be drawn for the failures. However as a matter of abundant caution, 62 barrels have been withdrawn from Tanks in the Field Army so far and the same have since been replaced with serviceable barrels.