

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3467
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2006
DEFENCE PROJECTS
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been inordinate delay in completion of some of the defence projects resulting in cost and time over-runs as reported in Hindustan Times dated July 24, 2006;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for such an inordinate delay; and
- (d) the concrete steps being taken by the Government for completion of these projects expeditiously?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) to (c): DRDO is engaged in development of combat aircraft, strategic systems, battle tanks, electronic warfare and communication systems, armour and armaments, life support systems, naval systems, missile systems, etc. Some of the DRDO projects have taken more time than estimated due to one or more of the following primary reasons:-

#Technical complexities.

#Technological embargo/sanctions and various control regimes.

#Non-availability of infrastructure within the country.

#Extended and long lasting user trials.

#Revision of systems specifications during development phase.

(d) Government has taken the following concrete steps for timely completion of projects:-

#Ensuring timely review and monitoring for financial and technical progress through multi-tier review mechanisms.

#Adopting technology evaluation and assessment prior to taking up fresh projects.

#Promoting synergy and better coordination among User Services, DRDO and Production Agencies through cluster meetings.

#Adopting 'concurrent engineering' and 'joint venture' approach for development and production.

#Devising and implementing better project management methods.