

(d) whether Government has received any proposal from the Army to open a field firing range in any of districts of Maharashtra; and

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) Presently, there are 52 existing Field Firing Ranges in the country.

(b) The criteria for opening of new Field Firing Ranges are:—

(i) Training and operational requirement of the Field Formations.

(ii) Dependency of troops on the Field Firing Range.

(iii) Availability of land to satisfy the danger area requirements for the weapon system(s) to be fired.

(iv) Availability of good road and rail connectivity.

(c) Currently, there is no proposal to open any new Field Firing Range.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

**Funds for Procurement of Arms, Equipments,
Ammunition for the Army**

153. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds sanctioned to procure arms, equipments, ammunition, etc. for the Army during the last two years, the details thereof;

(b) the percentage of the amount out of that utilised by the Army;

(c) the percentage of amount out of that utilised for the fast-track procurement; and

(d) the reasons for not utilising the total sanctioned amount and the effect of that on the preparation for the Defence of the country?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) to (d) Capital acquisition of defence equipment is undertaken as a continuous activity to keep the Armed Forces in a state of preparedness to meet the entire spectrum of security challenges. All efforts are made to optimally use budgeted funds for meeting committed liabilities relating to already concluded capital acquisition contracts and for new schemes contracted during the last two years.

The budget allocations for acquisition of defence equipment for the Army during the last two years are as under:—

Financial Year	Budget Estimates (₹ in crore)	
	Capital	Revenue
2017-18	20178.21	10528.29
2018-19	21338.21	11057.06

Functioning of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

154. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the capacity of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to implement projects that are pending;

(b) whether non-payment of huge amount by Government has adversely affected the working capital of HAL;

(c) the amount paid so far in the last six months and proposed to be paid to HAL;

(d) the amount of arrears of payment of other contractors outstanding with HAL; and

(e) efforts made to improve the working efficiency and productivity of HAL?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) The present capacity available in HAL is adequate to fulfil the existing orders/projects in hand.

Currently, HAL has firm orders to manufacture platforms like Su-30 MKI, LCA, DO-228, ALH, Chetak and Cheetal helicopters.

(b) As and when required, HAL borrows from banks to meet its working capital requirements.

(c) An amount of ₹ 8140 crore has been paid to HAL from January, 2019 to June, 2019 from defence services. Dues of vendors including HAL are paid depending on the availability of funds, prioritization of schemes and advances/payments that fall due to the vendors including HAL.

(d) The amount of arrears of payment to other contractors outstanding with HAL is ₹ 868.14 crore.