

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE  
**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2536**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2017  
**SHORTAGE OF ASSAULT RIFLES**

2536. ADV. M. UDHAYAKUMAR:  
SHRI C.S. PUTTA RAJU:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE j{k k ea=h  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is shortage of assault rifles in the Army and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (b) whether due to delay in acquiring world class rifles for its soldiers, the Army proposes to induct the indigenously developed Excalibur and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Army has been trying to replace INSAS and had launched an ambitious global tender for inter-changeable barrels capable of firing both 5.56 mm and 7.62 mm calibre bullets; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

**A N S W E R**

MINISTER OF STATE  
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

रक्षा रणिय मंत्री

(DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)

(डा. सुभाष भामरे)

(a) No, Madam.

**(b) to (d):** A Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued for procurement of dual calibre Assault Rifle in November, 2011. However, as equipment fielded for trials did not fulfil the General Staff Qualitative Requirements (GSQRs), the RFP was retracted in June, 2015. Subsequently, a fresh process has been initiated to procure new Assault Rifles which would meet desired operational parameters.

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