

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3955
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2002
DEAL WITH BLACKLISTED FRENCH FIRM
RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `MoD inks deal with blacklisted French Firm` appearing in the `Hindustan Times` dated April 4, 2002;
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons for procuring hand held thermat imagers from black listed firm;
- (c) whether the Government propose to conduct any enquiry in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (e): Yes, Sir. The report is not based on facts. No such contract has been signed nor is the French Firm M/s Thales blacklisted.

As the report is not based on facts there was no need for an enquiry.