

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1555
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2003
INVITATION FOR ALASKA MILITARY EXERCISE
SRINIVASULU KALAVA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India has been invited by the US for multinational Alaska Military exercise;
- (b) if so, the fields of joint exercise undertaken; and
- (c) the view of the Government in regard to technical cooperation in Defence research, development and production jointly?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

- (a) Yes, Sir. India participated in Exercise Cooperative Cope Thunder - 03, a multilateral exercise conducted in Alaska during June 5-20, 2003.
- (b) The Indian Air Force took part in the air transport operations with an IL-76 aircraft.
- (c) As a part of the on-going interaction between Ministry of Defence, Government of India and Department of Defence, United States, possibility of cooperation in R&D is being discussed by the two countries as a part of deliberations in Defence Policy Group (DPG) and Joint Technical Group (JTG) meetings.