

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4270  
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2000  
DEFECTIVE MIG(S) IMPORTED DURING 1986-1990  
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether MIG-29 shipped to India between 1986 and 1990, failed to match the operational requirements of IAF and most of them remained grounded, mostly due to premature failure of engines;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the details of the audit reports in respect of these fighter aircraft; and
- (c) the number of MIG-29 that have crashed so far?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) & (b): The aircraft has met the operational requirements of IAF. During the period 1987 to 1990 a number of engines were prematurely withdrawn and sent for repairs to the manufacturer. These withdrawals were mainly due to a minor technical defect, and damage due to foreign objects. These problems have since been overcome by instituting remedial measures and modifications. Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of 10th Lok Sabha examined all aspects of problems related to induction of MiG-29 and related to its utilisation/maintenance in the initial period of usage of aircraft.

(c) A total of five (four fighters and one trainer) aircraft have crashed till date.