

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5193
ANSWERED ON:27.04.2000
SUKHOI DEAL WITH RUSSIA
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Rs. 7313 crore Sukhoi deal runs into turbulence' appeared in the Hindustan Times dated March 31, 2000;
- (b) if so, whether due to delay by DRDO in developing indigenous technology for Sukhoi fighters, the Government are losing several crores of rupees;
- (c) if so, the facts thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to develop indigenous technology for fighter planes?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise.
- (d) Indigenous programme to develop Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) has been going on since 1983.