

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6158
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2005
MANUFACTURING OF SUPERSONIC FIGHTER AIRCRAFT
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that China and Pakistan are jointly manufacturing FC-single engine super sonic fighter aircraft;
- (b) if so, whether the pace of manufacturing single engine supersonic fighter aircraft by India is very slow as compared to the China and Pakistan;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to accelerate the production of supersonic fighter aircraft?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

- (a) According to Chinese Media reports, China and Pakistan are jointly developing China's new generation fighter plane Xiaolong/FC-I (or Fierce Dragon).
- (b) A Supersonic single engine fighter aircraft is being developed by India, using state-of-the-art advanced technologies. Development of these technologies/aircraft is a complex process and takes considerable time. The programme is progressing satisfactorily.
- (c) & (d): Do not arise.