

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2323

ANSWERED ON:08.12.2005

DEFENCE COOPERATION WITH RUSSIA

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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether talks have been held between India and Russia for co-operation in Defence sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the progress made so far in this regard; and
- (d) the time by which final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) to (d): There exists an institutional mechanism for discussion on defence cooperation with the Russian Federation in the form of 'India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Military Technical Cooperation'. The Commission has held five meetings so far. The Fifth meeting was held in Russia on November 15-16, 2005. Raksha Mantri Co-Chaired the meeting. During the meeting both sides reviewed progress of the on-going bilateral defence cooperation and discussed various issues of mutual interest in the areas of defence and security. Both sides expressed satisfaction at the on-going level of defence exchanges and cooperation between the two countries.