

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:424  
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2007  
PURCHASE OF UAVs  
Nandy Shri Amitava

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

- (a) whether the Government has purchased Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) from any foreign agency;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of UAVs inducted in the Indian Air Force alongwith the operational missions for the UAVs;
- (d) whether the survivability of UAVs has been ascertained before induction;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the time by which the country is likely to be capable enough to build its own UAVs indigenously?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) & (b): Contracts were concluded with M/s Israel Aircraft Industries, Israel for the supply of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs). Delivery in respect of some of these contracts has since been completed.
- (c) The thirty UAVs inducted so far by the Indian Air Force are engaged in the operational missions of reconnaissance and intelligence gathering.
- (d) & (e): The UAVs were inducted after taking into account all operational, maintenance and survivability aspects.
- (f) The tactical UAV, Nishant was developed indigenously.