

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2932
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2007
INDIGENOUS AIRCRAFT CARRIER
Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the most ambitious ship-building project, construction of a 37,500 tonne Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC) at Cochin Shipyard is running way behind schedule;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for delay in construction of the Indigenous Aircraft Carrier ;
- (d) the progress achieved so far regarding construction of the Aircraft Carrier; and
- (e) the measures taken by the Government to boost the construction of the Aircraft Carrier ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) & (b): The construction of Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC) is progressing with the scheduled `launch` of the ship in 2010 at Cochin Shipyard Ltd (CSL). However, the final delivery of the ship may be delayed from the earlier likely delivery in 2012.
- (c) The delay is due to size and complexities in construction of an aircraft carrier, being designed and built indigenously for the first time at Cochin Shipyard Ltd. Besides, delay has also occurred due to delay in receipt of some critical materials such as steel from abroad.
- (d) Principal design has been completed and specialist design inputs outsourced are progressing as per schedule. Contract for Phase-I has been concluded with CSL in May 2007 and the construction of hull and ordering of equipment is progressing as per the contracted schedule.
- (e) Adequate funds required at this stage as per contract, have been provided to CSL for procurement of various material, equipment and towards yard-effort as per shipbuilding schedule, as also for infrastructure augmentation. The project is being reviewed at various levels to remove impediments, if any, expeditiously.