

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4821  
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2010  
PROCUREMENT OF DRONE AIRCRAFT  
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**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to procure Drone aircraft;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the areas of its deployment; and
- (d) the steps for indigenous development of the said aircraft or its alternatives?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) & (b): Yes, Madam. Contract for procurement of two Heron Unmanned Aerial Vehicles(UAV) – Drone aircraft and it's associated equipment from M/s IAI, Israel was signed on 4th March 2010.
- (c) Maritime surveillance of the Western and Eastern seaboard.
- (d) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has developed one type of Drone aircraft (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) called NISHANT for which Army has placed Limited Series Production (LSP) order. Lakshya is another target Drone aircraft which has already been inducted into all the three Services.