

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:427
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2009
MANUFACTURING OF HELICOPTERS
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has cancelled its projects for manufacturing Medium Lift Helicopters;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the present status of project to manufacture Light Combat Helicopters which was launched in 2006;
- (d) whether there is proposal to export the indigenously developed helicopters; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise in view of (a).
- (c) The design and development programme for Light Combat Helicopter was approved in October,2006. The first prototype (technology demonstrator) is expected to get the initial operational clearance by December, 2010.
- (d) Yes, Sir.
- (e) HAL has exported five numbers of the indigenously developed Helicopter Dhruv to Ecuador.