

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4187
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2009
INDIGENOUS ENGINES FOR AIRCRAFT
Kalmadi Shri Suresh;Muttamwar Shri Vilas Baburao

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has offered to produce indigenous engines for the Light Combat Aircraft within five years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has analysed the proposal of DRDO and its advantages in view of the feasibility of required changes in configuration of the engines at any time;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Air Force has favoured the foreign option in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (f): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4187 FOR ANSWER ON 3.8.2009

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has offered to co-develop and co-produce-90kN thrust class of upgraded Kaveri engine with M/s Snecma, France to meet the operational requirement of Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), Tejas within 48 months from the date of project inception. DRDO and M/s Snecma are jointly responsible for engine design, development, flight trials and certification in Tejas. The modified Kaveri engine proposal provides comparable thrust throughout the flight envelope of Tejas. Minimum changes are required in the airframe to integrate this engine without affecting the weight and configuration of Tejas.

The proposal for co-development was considered by Indian Air Force. Indian Air Force has suggested a proven engine that is already in production and flight worthy for meeting immediate requirement. Request for Proposal (RFP) has been issued to reputed engine manufacturers.