

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:184
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2011
RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT
Singh Shri Rakesh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to manufacture unmanned small reconnaissance aircraft;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any research has been carried out in this regard and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether this aircraft will have capability to evade detection by radars; and
- (e) whether indigenous technology has been developed for the same and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE(SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU)

- (a) No, Madam. The government does not propose to manufacture small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) of less than 200 Kgs. Private industry is allowed to manufacture and market small UAVs.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) to (e): DRDO has developed 370 Kg UAV "Nishant" and 800 Kg "Rustom-I" for the Army, having endurance of 4 and half hours and 12-15 hours respectively. Small UAVs generally have very low Radar Cross Sections and may not be easily detectable by radars.