

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6063
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2012
KAVERI ENGINE
Patel Shri Bal Kumar

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has fixed any timeframe to fully develop the Kaveri aero engine for the Light Combat Air-craft Tejas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the current status of the project; and
- (d) the time by which the engine is likely to be ready for the Tejas?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): No, Madam. LCA, Tejas requires 90 kN thrust class engine to meet its operational requirement, whereas Kaveri Engine does not fully meet this requirement. Therefore, it has been decided to use variants of Kaveri Engine to power Unmanned Air Vehicle and also for marine applications.

(c) Two important milestones of Kaveri project have been successfully achieved:-

- (i) Completion of Official Altitude Testing for 73 hrs at Central Institute of Aviation Motors (CIAM), Russia.
- (ii) Flying Test Bed (FTB) trials for 55 hrs with IL-76 Aircraft conducted at Gromov Flight Research Institute (GFRI), Russia.

Endurance testing for about 2100 hrs has been conducted at Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE).

(d) It is planned to commence flight trials for Technology Demonstration of Kaveri Engine with LCA Tejas Mk-I in about 3 years time.