

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:530  
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012  
PURCHASE OF TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT  
Ganeshamurthi Shri A.

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government proposes to acquire transport aircraft for the Indian Air Force to replace its ageing fleet of AVRO planes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to tie up with a foreign vendor to supply the aircraft instead of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL);
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and the amount earmarked for this project; and
- (e) the time by which these aircrafts are likely to be procured and put in operation?

**Answer**

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

- (a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) accorded Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for procurement of 56 aircraft as replacement of Avro aircraft under 'Buy and Make' category on 23rd July 2012.
- (c) & (d): The aircraft to replace Avro aircraft are proposed to be procured through the 'Buy and Make' route as per the Defence Procurement Procedure – 2011, with the stipulation that the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) will select a private Indian Production Agency for manufacturing 40 aircraft in India. The estimated cost of the project is Rs.11,897 crore. This will encourage development of the Indian private sector in aircraft manufacture.
- (e) The deliveries of aircraft would commence within 24 months from the date of signing the contract and would be completed over a period of eight years.