

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2713
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2013
INDIGENOUS AIRCRAFT CARRIER
Thamaraiselvan Shri R.

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Cochin Shipyard Ltd. has used a pontoon assisted method, designed in-house to float out India's first indigenous aircraft carrier;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this has taken four years after its keel was laid; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a)&(b): Yes, Madam. As per the requirement of the Indian Navy, Cochin Shipyard Ltd. had to launch the Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC) from the building dock after erection of the Ski jump. Two large pontoons were attached to the bottom of the ship to provide the required buoyancy to permit launching of the ship within the draft limitation of the building dock i.e. 5 meters. These pontoons were designed, fabricated and erected by the shipyard.

(c)&(d): Yes, Madam. The keel of the ship was laid on 28th February, 2009 and the ship launched on 12th August, 2013.