

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3078

ANSWERED ON:10.02.2014

MODERNISATION OF IAF

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the projects to indigenously develop fighter aircraft are much behind the schedule;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the steps taken by the Government to complete these projects expeditiously and to provide adequate number of aircraft for operational preparedness of the Indian Air Force (IAF);
- (c) whether most of the aircraft in the inventory of IAF require immediate upgradation or replacement; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(a) & (b): There have been delays in the indigenous development of Light Combat Aircraft (LCA-Tejas) and the Project to co-develop Fifth Generation Fighter Aircraft (FGFA). The LCA has attained Initial Operational Clearance (IOC) on 20th December, 2013 paving its way to induction into IAF. In the FGFA project the PD phase has been completed in June, 2013.

(c) & (d): The MiG-21 and MiG-27 aircrafts of the IAF have already been upgraded and currently equip 14 combat squadrons. These aircrafts, however, are planned for being phased out over the next few years and will be replaced by the LCA. Steps have been initiated for upgradation of other fighter aircrafts like MiG-29, Jaguar, Mirage-2000; transport aircraft like AN-32 and Mi-17/Mi17 IV helicopters.