

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION  
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5621  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2017  
UNMANNED VARIANT OF TEJAS

5621. SHRI BHEEMRAO B. PATIL:  
SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN:  
SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE j{k k ea=h  
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has started work on developing an unmanned combat version of the home grown Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas and to convert the LCA into a drone;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government also plans to make an unmanned version of Chetak helicopter and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government is working on a project named AURA to make a futuristic combat drone powered by a modified version of the Kaveri engine; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE  
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)

रक्षा राज्य मंत्री

(डा. सुभाष भामरे)

**(a) & (b):** To design and develop stealthy Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle (UCAV), GHATAK / AURA, it is planned to utilize LCA-Tejas as a flying test bed for developing some technologies.

**(c)** Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has undertaken feasibility study of conversion of Chetak helicopter into unmanned technology demonstrator. Based on the initial study, HAL has floated global Request For Information (RFI).

**(d) & (e):** Yes, Madam. The project is named as GHATAK. Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) has planned to develop a futuristic stealth combat drone. Currently, ADA is working on technologies to enable future development.

\*\*\*\*\*