

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1995
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2019**

NATIONAL FACILITY FOR AIRBORNE RESEARCH

1995. SHRI GAURAV GOGOI:

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to deploy a dedicated aircraft that will function as India's National Facility for Airborne Research (NFAR) for research related to air pollution in India, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government is considering procuring such an aircraft at the earliest instead of the targeted plan of procuring it in 2021, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the kind of data that such an aircraft is likely to provide to the Government relevant to air pollution?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER FOR MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

- (a) Yes Sir. Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) is in the process of procuring a research aircraft to function as the National Facility for Airborne Research (NFAR). This aircraft will be used for airborne atmospheric research in the country including air pollution related observations.**
- (b) Procurement process of research aircraft has already been initiated through a global tender published in October 2019. The instrumented aircraft system procurement is complex and it involves various stages such as, aircraft manufacturing, modification, scientific instrument integration, calibration and aircraft registration/ certification. The delivery of aircraft will take 2 year period from the date of signing the contract with the successful bidder.**
- (c) Scientific instrumentation to measure concentration of trace gases in the atmosphere along with aerosol concentration and size distribution is planned on board the aircraft. Also, the meteorological parameters such as temperature, pressure, relative humidity, wind speed/ direction and the aircraft parameters such as aircraft speed, pitch/ roll angle, true heading, will be recorded. The cloud properties such as cloud particle number concentration, size distribution, cloud condensation nuclei concentration, precipitation particle images will also be collected.**
