

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

**STARRED QUESTION NO.189  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2015**

**FIGHTER AIRCRAFT**

\*189. SHRI PARESH RAVAL:  
DR. KIRIT P. SOLANKI:

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

- (a) whether the fighter aircraft squadrons at present is able to meet the demand of Indian Air Force (IAF), if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), Tejas has been inducted in IAF and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has signed any agreement with an European aircraft manufacturer for the development of Tejas Mark II aircraft, if so, the details and present status thereof along with the total estimated production cost for developing LCA Tejas;
- (d) the present status of negotiation of purchase of Multirole Combat Fighter Aircraft, Rafale from France; and
- (e) the measures taken to scale up fighter aircraft fleet in the country?

**A N S W E R**

MINISTER OF STATE  
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(RAO INDERJIT SINGH)

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**(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. 189 FOR ANSWER ON 11.12.2015**

The Indian Air Force (IAF) is equipped to cater for the threat environment that exists and is always ready to meet the role assigned to it. Operational preparedness of IAF is reviewed from time to time based on the threat perception. Further, augmentation and modernization of capabilities of IAF including its fighter aircraft fleet is a dynamic and continuous process.

The indigenous Light Combat Aircraft 'Tejas' has achieved initial operational clearance. The production phase is progressing concurrently with development activity. However, Government has not signed any agreement with any European aircraft manufacturer for the development of Tejas Mk-II aircraft.

As per the India-France Joint Statement issued by the two countries during the Prime Minister's visit to France, Government of India conveyed to the Government of France that Government of India would like to acquire 36 Medium Multi Role Combat Aircraft (MMRCA) Rafale in fly-away condition as quickly as possible. The two leaders agreed to conclude an Inter-Government agreement for supply of these aircraft. A negotiating team has been constituted for the purpose.

Further, HAL continues to manufacture Su-30 fighter Aircraft. Besides for decision to acquire for MMRCA has also been made to augment for fleet.

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