

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:67
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2003
PROCUREMENT OF AJTS
ASHOK KUMAR SINGH CHANDEL;PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of companies who have shown interest for the supply of Advance Jet Trainers (AJTs) to Indian Air Force;
- (b) whether the Government have shortlisted these companies;
- (c) if so, the latest progress made regarding procurement of Advance Jet Trainers;
- (d) if not, the reasons for delay in procurement of Advance Jet Trainers; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to procure best quality Jet Trainers and to bring transparency in the proposed deal?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 67 FOR 24.7.2003

Government have decided to induct Advanced Jet Trainers for the smooth transition of trainee pilots on to the frontline fighter squadrons equipped with high technology aircraft.

2. Keeping the operational requirements in view, the Air Headquarters had made a desk survey in December 1985 of a number of Advanced Jet Trainers then available in the world market.

3. Request for Proposals (RFPs) for AJT was issued on three occasions i.e. in 1986, 1992 and finally in 1999 to the two short-listed vendors M/s BAE for the HAWK aircraft and M/s Dassault Aviation for the Alpha Jet Aircraft.

4. Various options for procurement of AJT have been under examination by the Government. No contract has been finalized, as yet. Government is keen on finalization of the issue and has taken necessary steps in this direction in accordance with the procurement procedures. It would not be possible to lay down time limit for such a major procurement project.