

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4266

ANSWERED ON:21.04.2005

PURCHASE OF SCORPENE SUBMARINES

Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Khaire Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao;Satpathy Shri Tathagata;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan;Singh Shri Uday;Vijay Krishna Shri

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned, 'Sub deal delay costs India 2 cr a day' as reported in the Hindustan Times dated March 26, 2005;

(b) if so, whether delay and indecision over the acquisition of Scorpene attack submarines by Indian Navy has led to a price escalation of Rs. 4000 crores;

(c) if so, the facts thereof; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to expedite the decision to check further cost escalation?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) to (d): Government had approved a long term Perspective Plan for indigenous construction of submarines and acquisition of national competence in submarine building. As no final decision has been taken by the Government on the proposal for construction of Scorpene submarines under Transfer of Technology, the issue of escalation is notional.