

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4275
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2005
AIR FLEET
Jha Shri Raghunath;Singh Shri Prabhunath

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether bulk of the air fleet consists of ageing MIG series aircraft;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to maintain deterrence capabilities of Indian Air Force (IAF) in all circumstances to ensure air superiority in the region; and
- (c) the time by which Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) will be inducted into IAF?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

- (a) Yes, Sir. However, a considerable residual life of this fighter fleet is still left for utilization by the Indian Air Force.
- (b) The Indian Air Force combat fleet is being modernized through procurement of Su-30, Mirage-2000, Jaguar and other combat aircraft and upgradation of existing aircraft inventory on a continuous basis.
- (c) The Light Combat Aircraft is planned for induction in the Indian Air Force from the year 2008 onwards.