

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:319
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2007
LIGHT COMBAT AIRCRAFT
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas has undergone user trials;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the manner in which the Tejas compare with other multi role aircraft in the world;
- (d) whether it is a fact that due to delay in implementing the project the LCA technology has become outdated; and
- (e) if so, the efforts being made by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): Five Tejas are currently being flight tested for Initial Operational Clearance by the Indian Air Force pilots posted at National Test Centre of Aeronautical Development Agency, Ministry of Defence. So far 629 flights accumulating 334 hours have been completed. Twenty aircrafts have been ordered by the Indian Air Force as the first lot.

(c) to (e): The Light Combat Aircraft, which is multi-role aircraft, employs the same technologies which are existing in the other multi-role aircrafts in the world. These technologies are digital fly-by-wire flight control system, digital avionics, glass cockpit, composite structure, open system architecture avionics and state-of-the-art sensors and technologies. Its performance is comparable to the other multi-role aircraft in the same class of light-weight combat aircraft.