

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1248
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2007
JOINT VENTURE PROJECT BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND CHINA
Scindia Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any joint venture between Pakistan and China to produce multi role fighter planes with Russian engines;
- (b) if so, the details of the project ; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a-b) Yes. Government have seen media reports indicating that the Joint Fighter-17 (JF-17) Thunder, also known as the Fighter China-1 (FC-1) Fierce Dragon is being built by China`s Chengdu Aircraft Industry Corporation and Pakistan Aeronautical Complex and that the JF-17 is expected to be introduced into the Pakistan Air Force. Some reports also indicate that RD-93 aero engine of Russian origin may be used to power this aircraft.

(c) Government remain vigilant in monitoring developments, which have a bearing on the national interests of India, and are taking all necessary steps to safeguard these interests.