Joint development programme with Israel to develop iron drone

2514. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) proposes to have a joint development programme with Israel to develop Indian version of Iron Drone;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether our army has almost no protection against short range rockets or artillery fire; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government for joint development of Iron Drone for the country?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) Information can not be divulged in the interest of National Security.

Acquisition of aircrafts by IAF

2515. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Air Force (IAF) is considering to acquire 350-400 aircrafts in the current Twelfth Plan period;
 - (b) if so, the details thereof;