

- (a) whether there is any proposal to establish a University to exclusively deal with defence and strategic matters in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and salient features thereof;
- (c) whether Rules, Act etc. under which the said University will govern, have been finalized and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of the expenditure likely to be incurred on setting up of the said University; and
- (e) the time by when the academic session of the said University will be started?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Union Cabinet, in its meeting held on 13th May, 2010, has accorded 'in principle' approval to the setting up of Indian National Defence University (INDU) in District Gurgaon (Haryana). Government of Haryana has acquired the land and the same has, been handed over to Ministry of Defence. Foundation stone has been laid by the Prime Minister on 23rd May, 2013 on the land acquired for establishment of Indian National Defence University (INDU). It is proposed, *inter alia*, to conduct courses of varying durations on subjects ranging from Strategic Studies, War Gaming and Simulation, Neighbourhood Studies, Counter Insurgency and Counter Terrorism, Chinese Studies, Evaluation of Strategic Thought, Maritime Security Studies, Eurasian Studies, South East Asian Studies, material acquisition, joint logistics, national security strategy in peace and war, etc.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) The estimated expenditure is of Rs.295 Crore (at the rates of year 2010) on setting up of the University. Expenditure of Rs.162 Crore has been incurred for the acquisition of land of the University.
- (e) It is projected that the establishment of INDU and its constituents will be spread over seven years.

Procurement of multi-special camouflage nets

963. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has sought proposals from international market for

the procurement of Multi-Special Camouflage Nets (MSCN) in the backdrop of stand off with China;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it would be specific to our terrains?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) At present, there is no proposal for procurement of Multi-Special Camouflage Nets (MSCN).

(b) and (c) Does not arise, in view of part (a) above.

Dependence on foreign countries for engines for LCA

964. SHRI AMBETH RAJAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is still dependant on foreign countries for its requirement of engines for Light Combat Aircraft (LCA);

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government so far to be self-reliant in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) initiated a project for design and development of an Aero-engine in 1989 for requirements of combat aircraft. Since then, a considerable progress has been made in development of aero-engine. However, full objectives have not been achieved, like desired thrust. Hence, GE-F404 Engine has been selected as power plant for Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Mk-I. LCA Mk-II requires a higher thrust class Engine, therefore, GE-F414 Engine has been chosen as power plant for LCA Mk-II. Both engines are imported from M/s. General Electric, USA.

(c) LCA Programme (Mk-I & Mk-II) has already gone ahead with alternate engine (GE-F404 & GE-F414). Kaveri engine development programme is continuing and dry variant of which will power Indian Unmanned Strike Air Vehicle (IUSAV).

Strengthening of defence manufacturing base in the country

965. DR. K. P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state: