

However, as there is no commonly delineated Line of Actual Control (LAC) between India and China, there are areas along the border where India and China have differing perception of LAC. Due to both sides undertaking patrolling upto their perception of the LAC, transgressions do occur.

(c) To resolve the border disputes, the two sides have appointed Special Representative (SR) to explore the framework for a boundary settlement from the political perspective of the overall bilateral relationship. The 19th Round of SR Talks on India-China boundary question was held in China from 20-21 April, 2016.

#### **Induction of Tejas aircraft**

†178. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP:

DR. R. LAKSHMANAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Tejas aircraft has been inducted into Indian Air Force;
- (b) if so, the numbers thereof and the details of proposal to induct more of them in future, including the numbers and timelines thereof;
- (c) the expenditure incurred and cost escalation on development of Tejas and the extent of contribution made by indigenous and foreign technology, respectively; and
- (d) the extent of enhancement of IAF power following the induction of this aircraft and enhancement in our power *vis-a-vis* China and Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) and (b) The first Light Combat Aircraft (LCA)-Tejas squadron has been formed on 1st July, 2016 with two LCA Initial Operation Configuration (IOC) Series Production Aircraft. Further, 18 more aircraft in IOC standard are planned for induction by 2018-19. This would be followed by 20 more aircraft in Final Operation Configuration (FOC) standard, which are planned for induction from year 2019.

(c) The total expenditure incurred on development of Tejas LCA Mk-I aircraft, as on 30th June, 2016 is ₹ 8042.46 crores. The total initial sanctioned cost for Full Scale Engineering Development (FSED) for LCA was ₹ 5489.78 crores which was later escalated to ₹ 9121.07 crores.

The indigenous content of LCA is about 70% and import content is about 30%. The aircraft is indigenously designed and developed and the technology for production of this aircraft is available in the country.

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) LCA Tejas shall be an important part of IAF's fighter aircraft inventory filling up the lightweight category of fighters and shall be effectively used for air defence and for battlefield air strikes.

**Construction of strategic railway lines**

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

(a) whether Government is considering any proposal for construction of railway lines along China border as a strategic line, particularly Missamari-Tenga-Tawang; Bilaspur-Manali-Leh; Pasighat-Tezu-Rupai; and North Lakhimpur-Bame (Along)-Silapathar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps taken so far by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) to (c) Government has accorded 'in-principle' approval for construction and undertaking Final Location Survey (FLS) of following railway lines along the India-China border:

(i) Missamari (Bhalukpong)-Tenga-Tawang;

(ii) Bilaspur-Mandi-Manali-Leh;

(iii) Pasighat-Parasuramkund-Rupai; and

(iv) North Lakhimpur-Bame (Along)-Silapathar.

**Ceasefire violation by Pakistani troops**

180. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that violation of ceasefire by Pakistani troops in Jammu and Kashmir has continued in the recent past;

(b) if so, how many times the ceasefire was violated by Pakistani troops during the last four months with details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by our troops and Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) and (b) Details of ceasefire violations along Indo-Pakistan border in Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) are given below: