GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEFENCE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.50
TO BE ANSWERED ON 29th NOVEMBER, 2021

DEVELOPMENT OF KAVERI ENGINE

50 SHRI M. MOHAMED ABDULLA:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has successfully produced any indigenous jet engine and, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the current developmental status of the Kaveri engine and the details thereof;

(c) the amount of funds allocated, disbursed and utilised till date for the programme;

(d) whether the Kaveri engine will be inducted to the LCA Tejas, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
SHRI AJAY BHATT

(a) Yes, Sir. Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) sanctioned Kaveri Engine project in 1989. The following milestones were achieved:

- 9 Full prototype engines and 4 core engines built
- 3217 hours of engine testing conducted
- Completed Altitude tests & Flying Test Bed (FTB) trials. This is the first time that an indigenously developed military gas turbine engine was flight tested

(b) Kaveri engine project has achieved higher Technology Readiness Level (TRL) in many critical technology domains and those technologies are being used in the various engine development programmes of the country. Further the engines are used as test vehicles for validating next generation technologies.

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(c) Funds details are as follows:

Funds allocated	Expenditure	Commitment
Rs. 2105 crore	Rs. 2035.56 crore	Rs. 2097.65 crore

(d) At present the LCA Tejas is integrated with an imported engine. However, in future, it is proposed to develop indigenous engines for powering our own aircrafts such as LCA variants and AMCA in association with an International Engine House. The technological capabilities built through the Kaveri engine project will be utilised.

(e) LCA Tejas, Flight Operational Clearance (FOC) configuration demands higher thrust than the intended engine requirement. Hence the Kaveri in the present architecture cannot be integrated. In order to induct with LCA Tejas, a modified engine version is required.

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