



## LCA Tejas

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### Why in News

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The **Cabinet Committee on Security** (CCS) has recently cleared a deal worth Rs. 48,000 crore for the acquisition of **83 Tejas Light Combat Aircraft** for the Indian Air Force.

83 Tejas includes **73 LCA Tejas Mk-1A fighter aircraft** and **10 LCA Tejas Mk-1 trainer aircraft**. **MK-1A variant** is a improved version of MK-1 with an **electronic warfare system, advanced electronically scanned array (AESA) radar, beyond visual range (BVR) missiles** and a network warfare system comprising **software defined radio (SDR)**

### Cabinet Committee on Security

- CCS is chaired by the **Prime Minister** of India.
- Major decisions with respect to the **significant appointments, issues of national security, defence expenditure of India** are taken by the **Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS)**.

### Key Points

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## **About:**

- The **Light Combat Aircraft** (LCA) programme was started by the **Government of India in 1984** when they established the **Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA)** to manage the **LCA programme**.
- It replaced the ageing **Mig 21 fighter planes**.
- **Designed by:**
  - Aeronautical Development Agency** under the **Department of Defence Research and Development**.
- **Manufactured by:**
  - State-owned **Hindustan Aeronautics Limited** (HAL).
- **Features:**
  - The **lightest, smallest and tailless multi-role supersonic fighter** aircraft in its class.
  - Designed to **carry a range of air-to-air, air-to-surface, precision-guided**, weapons.
  - **Air to air refuelling capability**.
  - Maximum **payload capacity of 4000 kg**.
  - It can attend the maximum speed of **Mach 1.8**.
  - The range of the aircraft is **3,000km**
- **Variants of Tejas:**
  - **Tejas Trainer:** 2-seater operational conversion trainer for training air force pilots.
  - **LCA Navy:** Twin- and single-seat carrier-capable for the Indian Navy.
  - **LCA Tejas Navy MK2:** This is phase 2 of the LCA Navy variant.
  - **LCA Tejas Mk-1A:** This is an improvement over the LCA Tejas Mk1 with a higher thrust engine.

**Source:TH**