



# Tejas Jets for Delivery

## Why in News?

The Government of India has offered to sell **18** [Light-Combat Aircraft \(LCA\)](#) “Tejas” to **Malaysia**.

- **Argentina, Australia, Egypt, the United States, Indonesia, and the Philippines** were also interested in the single-engine jet.
- The Indian government gave a **USD6 billion contract to state-owned** [Hindustan Aeronautics Limited](#) in 2021 for 83 of the locally produced Tejas jets for delivery starting around 2023.

## What is Tejas Aircraft?



- **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: IE](#)**

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