



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 attain 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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