

The Times of India, 2 May 2005

Probe into Anjali's charges starts

BANGALORE: The Court of Inquiry into the sexual harassment charges levelled by IAF officer Anjali Gupta against her three superior officers on Monday set the process of inquiry in motion here. The court headed by Air Vice Marshal V M Iyer, along with four officers, including two women, began "assessing" the relevant documents, an IAF spokesman said. The IAF had announced the Court of Inquiry on April 27 even as Gupta is separately facing court martial proceedings initiated against her on charges of indiscipline, insubordination and financial irregularities. Gupta, working at the Aircraft Systems and Testing Establishment here, had made the sexual harassment charges in her April 7 letter to the Chief of Air Staff and the Ministry of Defence, besides complaining to the police here in February.

The Times of India, 3 May 2005

No specific request placed for F-16s: IAF

SHILLONG: Indian Air Force has not placed any specific request for F-16 or F-18 aircraft with any foreign firm although the US Government cleared two manufacturers' names to negotiate for the purchase, Air Chief Marshal S P Tyagi said here on Monday. "The USA Government had written to the Indian Government a month ago clearing the names of two firms - M/s Lockheed for F-16s and M/s Boeing for F-18s - to negotiate. But we have not sent any Request for Proposal (RFP) to purchase," he said. Elaborating, the Chief of Air Staff said IAF had approached the Central government three years ago with its 'qualitative requirements' to buy F-16s and the then NDA regime had cleared the purchase of 126 'multi-role combat aircraft of medium variety' for the force. After that a Request for Information (RFI) was sent to four firms - each one in the US, France, Sweden and Russia - to seek more details with broad parameters of the IAF requirement. But there was no RFP sent to any firm so far, he clarified. Stating that procurement of 126 combat aircraft as per IAF requirements was a very complex exercise and huge contract which very few countries in the world would do generally, the AIR Chief added that it would take sometime to finalise. "But there is no problem and no hitch," he said. Refusing to comment on the F-16 deal between Pakistan and the US, he said it was their "own business".

The Tribune, 3 May 2005

Probe into charges by Anjali begins

Bangalore, May 2: The Court of Inquiry (CoI) into sexual harassment charges levelled by IAF officer Anjali Gupta against her three superior officers, today began assessing documentary evidence on the charges, while the court martial against Ms Gupta on separate charges was adjourned for tomorrow after she reported ill. The four-member inquiry team including two women, headed by Air Vice-Marshal V.R. Iyer, was going through relevant documents to look into the charges by Ms Gupta at the Aircraft and Systems Testing Establishment (ASTE), where she works as an education officer.

The Hindu, 3 May 2005

Anjali Gupta will be protected: Air chief (Sushanta Talukdar)

SHILLONG: Air Chief Marshal S.P.Tyagi on Monday said that flying officer Anjali Gupta, who had alleged harassment by three Air Force officers, was also an officer of the force and his job was to protect her. Describing the allegations brought by Ms. Gupta as "serious allegations" the Chief of the Air staff said tough action would be taken against anyone found guilty if the allegations were true. He expressed the hope that the truth would come out soon after the ongoing enquiry was over. Air Chief Marshal Tyagi was responding to queries on the Anjali Gupta case at a press conference at the Eastern Air Command headquarters here. Mr. Tyagi also said that the lady officer had been charge sheeted for her alleged insubordination and involvement in financial irregularities for which he said a trial was on. He, however, made it clear that the IAF would not link the two cases, as they were totally different and have taken the allegations of harassment by Ms. Gupta seriously.

The Hindu, 4 May 2005

Speed up trials on Tejas: MPs

NEW DELHI: Members of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee of the Defence Ministry on Tuesday urged the Government to expedite trials on the Light Combat Aircraft (LCA), 'Tejas', being developed in Bangalore. They said the Air Force should speed up user-trials so that it could be inducted earlier than the initial operational clearance period of 2007 and the final clearance three years later. The members, who were given a multimedia presentation, sought clarifications and reiterated the need for marketing Tejas globally after it met the IAF's requirements. Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee said though work was apace on Tejas, India would procure state-of-the-art weapons and equipment from the global market in keeping with the security environment and threat perceptions. He assured the members that all efforts were being made for the induction of Tejas on the basis of the stringent requirements projected by the armed forces.

The Hindu, 4 May 2005

No specific request placed for F-16 or F-18: IAF

SHILLONG: The Indian Air Force has not placed any specific request for F-16 or F-18 aircraft with any foreign firm although the U.S. Government cleared two manufacturers' names to negotiate for the purchase, Air Chief Marshal S.P. Tyagi said here on Monday. "The USA Government had written to the Indian Government a month ago, clearing the names of two firms - Lockheed for F-16s and Boeing for F-18s - to negotiate. But we have not sent any Request for Proposal (RFP) to purchase," he said. Elaborating, the Chief of Air Staff said the IAF had approached the Central Government three years ago with its 'qualitative requirements' to buy F-16s and the then the NDA regime had cleared the purchase of 126 'multi-role combat aircraft of medium variety' for the force. After that a Request for Information (RFI) was sent to four firms - each one in the U.S., France, Sweden and Russia - to seek more details with broad parameters of the IAF. But no RFP had been sent to any firm so far, he clarified.

The Times of India, 4 May 2005

Tejas will be world's cheapest fighter jet (RAJAT PANDIT)

NEW DELHI: The new American F/A-22 Raptor stealth fighter costs Rs 480 crore. The Rafale multi-role jet being inducted into the French Air Force and Navy, in turn, notches about Rs 270 crore. The price tag for the French Mirage-2000 and the Swedish JAS-39 Gripen also hovers between Rs 130 crore and Rs 160 crore. In contrast, despite huge time and cost overruns, the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft "Tejas" will cost only Rs 100-110 crore. And perish any thought of Tejas becoming "obsolete" by 2010 when it will be inducted into the IAF. Its "open-architecture" avionics and "glass cockpit" systems ensure it can be constantly upgraded. This was the basic message delivered by defence minister Pranab Mukherjee, defence secretary Ajai Vikram Singh, DRDO chief M Natarajan and others to the Parliamentary Consultative Committee on Defence on Tuesday after members expressed... ..serious concerns about the long-delayed project. The MPs were also told that Tejas, which will be the world's smallest, lightweight and relatively cheapest frontline combat aircraft, had excellent "export potential". Sources said Brazilian aviation major Embraer - India has ordered five Legacy VVIP jets from it for Rs 727 crore - has already shown interest to jointly market Tejas worldwide.

The Tribune, 4 May 2005

Move to induct LCA Tejas: Pranab

New Delhi, May 3: Defence Minister Pranab Mukherjee today informed the Parliamentary Committee that efforts were on to induct LCA Tejas. The assurance from the Defence Minister came in the backdrop of the criticism by the committee about the slippages in the project on behalf of the DRDO. The Defence Minister said intensive user trials of the LCA were underway and these tests were being undertaken to meet stringent quality requirements projected by the armed forces. He assured the committee members that the development of the indigenous fighter was on course and that the government would procure state-of-the-art weapons platforms and equipment from the global market "as per the security environment".

The Tribune, 5 May 2005

France ready to give Mirage "marketing rights" to India (Girja Shankar Kaura)

New Delhi, May 4: France is ready to grant India "marketing rights" for the Mirage-2000-5 fighter aircraft, which have been put on offer to the Indian Air Force (IAF) besides the transfer of technology being offered for the production of aircraft here. Ambassador of France to India, Dominique Girard, said here that Paris was ready to discuss with New Delhi the granting of exclusive marketing rights for the Mirage-2000-5 for the entire region if the fighter aircraft was selected for the purchase by the IAF. He said that the offer for transfer of technology had already been put forward during talks with the Indian officials and that the French officials were ready to discuss even this new offer. Talking to The Tribune during a function to launch Euro News in India, the French Ambassador was categorical that the issue of granting of "marketing rights" to India for the entire region could be discussed during further deliberations with the Dassault officials.

The Indian Express, 6 May 2005

Girard points at hidden agenda, pushes Mirage

NEW DELHI, MAY 5: With an eye on the Air Force's plan to buy 126 multi-role combat aircraft, French Ambassador to India Dominique Girard today expressed disappointment over Air India's decision to buy 50 aircraft from US aircraft manufacturer Boeing. The French envoy was of the view that factors "other than commercial" influenced the A-I decision not to give the contract to Airbus. "We are surprised and disappointed. Airbus has a definite advantage over Boeing," said Girard on the margins of the launch of Euronews channel. Now that the US is open to joint production of F-16s and even F-18s in India, the French Ambassador is concerned about the chances of Dassault Aviation, which makes the Mirage fighters, in bagging 126-aircraft deal. He hoped that "comprehensive factors" will be taken into account before India reaches a decision on the IAF purchase. Girard claimed that Boeing would not be able to deliver all the 50 planes on an "urgent basis", an aspect on which Airbus would have scored over Boeing. He added that Airbus aircraft are price-competitive and Indian pilots find them easier to train on. "It is clear that some factors other than commercial have played a role," he said.

The Hindu, 7 May 2005

Copter crashlands

CHENNAI: A single-engine naval helicopter crashlanded at the Naval Air Base, INS Rajali, Arakkonam, near here on Friday. All the three crew members were killed.

The Hindu, 8 May 2005

LCA Tejas completes 400 test flights

BANGALORE: Light Combat Aircraft Tejas completed 400 test flight sorties early on Saturday when the aircraft's Technology Demonstrator 1 (TD-1) and Proto Vehicle 1 (PV-1) were launched. Wing Commander Raj Tyagi and Wing Commander Vikram Singh flew the two aircraft, the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) said here. Tejas TD-1 has been fitted with a new air data probe after its scheduled servicing. The latest test flights were for calibration of air data system at different altitudes and speeds for the TD-1. Wg. Cdr. Singh has so far flown the highest number - 112 - of test sorties on Tejas. Both aircraft flew for 47 minutes each. TD-1 is now ready for exploration of the flight envelope further, the ADA said. The LCA has already flown at speeds up to 1.4 mach at an altitude of 15 km. The "angle of attack" of 20 degrees and manoeuvre load of 4 per cent G (indicating the resistance to gravity) have been achieved on the three prototype aircraft. The fourth aircraft (PV-2) with reduced structural weight, completely new avionics, and cockpit displays is now going through ground vibration and structural coupling tests. This aircraft will also be fitted with multi-mode radar, R 73 missiles, and drop tanks. Its maiden flight is scheduled for next month.

The Indian Express, 9 May 2005

Now Russia says let's produce MiG-29s jointly

MOSCOW, MAY 8: After the US offer of entering into joint production of F-16s and F-18s with India, Russia has now sought to jointly produce its upgraded MiG-29 fighters. The Russian model is in contention for the 126 multi-role combat aircraft that the IAF plans to acquire. The offer, sources said, came days before Prime Minister Manmohan Singh touched down in Moscow tonight to attend the 60th Victory Day celebrations. Defence cooperation will be one of the key issues during the PM's bilateral meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday. The IAF has already received a request for information on the fighter aircraft purchase from Russia. And while India is yet to respond, sources said, Moscow has taken note of the US offer and conveyed a similar intent to strengthen its bid to bag the deal. The upgraded Russian MiG-29M2 also did a demonstration flight at the Bangalore Aero Show in March. With India also keen on expanding the scope of its defence relationship with Russia, detailed talks are expected between National Security Advisor M K Narayanan-he will stay back while the PM returns on Tuesday-and his Russian counterpart Igor Ivanov. Incidentally, Narayanan may also meet his US counterpart Stephen Hadley during his stay.

The Times of India, 13 May 2005

Pranab: Pak violated Indian air space thrice this year

NEW DELHI: Apart from the ceasefire violations along the Indo-Pak border a few months ago, Pakistan military aircraft and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) have also violated Indian airspace this year. "A total number of three incidents of violation of the Indian airspace by Pakistan's military aircraft have been observed this year. One such incident occurred in January, while the remaining two occurred in March," defence minister Pranab Mukherjee told Lok Sabha on Thursday. "The required air defence measures are initiated depending upon the situation. Protests are also lodged with the country concerned through diplomatic channels," he added. The ceasefire along the 198-km International Border in J&K, the 778-km LoC and the 150-km Actual Ground Position Line in Siachen came into force on November 26, 2003.

The Times of India, 14 May 2005

IAF announces appointments for 3 top posts

NEW DELHI: Even as Air Marshal Harish Masand moved the Supreme Court once again to question defence ministry for not giving him his due of being treated on par with other air marshals, the Indian Air Force on Friday announced three top appointments. IAF said Air Marshal A K Singh will now officially take over as the chief of the Delhi-based Western Air Command, while Air Marshals J S Gujral and K S Chaturvedi will head the Allahabad-based Central Air Command and Nagpur-based Maintenance Command, respectively. Air Marshal Masand, who fought a successful battle with his force in court to get his rank, was posted as an adviser to the Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) in Bangalore a few days ago.

The Tribune, 18 May 2005

Military court denying right to defend: Anjali

Bangalore, May 17: Flying Officer Anjali Gupta, facing General Court Martial proceedings for insubordination and financial irregularities, today accused the military court of slashing her right to defend. The military court, headed by Group Captain V. Ganesh, had arraigned seven charges against Anjali Gupta and initiated formal hearing yesterday, denying further time to the accused IAF woman officer to commission a civil advocate to plead her case. She had also claimed that she could not find a civil advocate despite the court being adjourned for five days as she was under close arrest. The woman officer today stated in the court that it was going ahead with her case after slashing her right of defence in engaging her own choice of civil advocate to plead her case.

The Times of India, 21 May 2005

IAF gets more teeth along Pak border

NEW DELHI: With the Army now establishing the new South-Western Command to bolster strike capabilities along the Indo-Pak border, the IAF too is taking steps to further enhance credible conventional deterrence and offensive options on the western front. IAF plans to base the 12 Mirage-2000-V multi-role fighter jets, which are being acquired from Qatar, at the Adampur station near Jalandhar in Punjab, say sources. The Halwara airbase, also in Punjab, in turn, is likely to get a squadron of Sukhoi-30MKI "air dominance fighters". The IAF has also operationalised a new airbase at Phalodi, 110-km northwest of Jodhpur, which is "strategically placed" near the border. Another airbase is slated to come up at Deesa, near Mt Abu. The Cabinet Committee on Security had cleared the acquisition of the second-hand Mirages from Qatar, which still have 80-87% service life left in them, in end-March. The IAF, of course, is also looking at French Mirage-2000-Vs, apart from the American F-16s, Swedish Gripen and Russian MiG-29M2s, for its medium-term project to induct 126 such fighters.

The Daily Times, 21 May 2005

Pakistan's 71 F-16s likely to be outmatched by India's 126 (Khalid Hasan)

WASHINGTON: Pakistan is expected to order 18 to 71 F-16 Falcon combat aircraft from the United States, as compared with 126 F-16s - or potentially F/A-18E/F Super Hornets -that could be offered for sale to India, according to Congressional Research Service (CRS). In a report released on Thursday, CRS said, "Some believe that this sale is being considered, in part, to reward the Pakistani government for the role it has played in support of US-led anti-terrorism efforts ... If completed, such sales would have implications for political-military relations among the United States, Pakistan, and India; for combat aircraft proliferation; and for the US defence industrial base." CRS said it is currently unclear what long-term effects a potential sale of combat aircraft to South Asia, might have on US political relations with Pakistan and India, or the political relationship between them. Justifications for the decision to allow resumed sales to Pakistan include a US interest that Pakistan "feel secure" and a perception that a substantive US defence relationship with both Pakistan and India will stabilise "the balance"

between them. Some believe the decision is a reward to Musharraf and the Pakistani military for their post-9/11 cooperation with US-led counter terrorism efforts, and see renewed exports as potentially increasing US leverage in Islamabad while eroding anti-American sentiments there. Such leverage could include increased Pakistani cooperation in the areas of counter-terrorism and non-proliferation. Some see the decision to allow resumed F-16 sales to Pakistan as disruptive of regional stability and efforts to resolve disputes there.

The Times of India, 24 May 2005

Six IAF men graduate to fly Hawk AJTs in UK

RAF VALLEY, Wales: Ushering in a new era for the Indian Air Force, six of its officers on Monday successfully completed their fast jet flying course and graduated to fly the UK-made 'Hawk' Advanced Jet Trainer (AJT) aircraft. Prince Charles, in his capacity as honorary Air Commodore, presented the graduation certificates to the six officers in a special ceremony at the RAF Valley in the Wales, and hoped the Hawks would prove to be a great success to the Indian Air Force. From the Indian Air Force, Air Marshal Bhojwani was present at the occasion. The flying officers who graduated are Jai Singh Brar (Gurgaon - Mirage 2000 pilot), Manoj Garg (Lucknow - Sukhoi 30 pilot), Rohit Kataria (Trichur - Sukhoi 30 pilot), Saurabh Pachauri (Patiala - Sukhoi 30 pilot), Vinod Prabhakaran (Lucknow - Sukhoi 30 pilot) and Anand Kumar Singh (Sagar (MP) - Jaguar pilot). They were trained as part of a £790 million deal India had reached in 2004 with British Aerospace Systems (BAE), makers of Hawk, for purchasing 66 aircraft.

The Indian Express, 24 May 2005

US report says F-16 sale to tilt scales further (SHIV AROOR)

NEW DELHI, MAY 23: A US Congressional report sent to the Senate four days ago has observed that the proposed sale of combat aircraft to India and Pakistan would enhance the already stark military disparity between the two countries. The internally-circulated report, a copy of which is with The Indian Express, also hints at the possibility of combat aircraft proliferation and a regional military imbalance as a consequence of selling F-16s to Islamabad and F-16s or F/A-18 Super Hornets to New Delhi. Under the Military Implication subhead, the May 19 Congressional Research Service report (No. RS22148) notes, "The sale of F-16s to Pakistan would increase its number of modern combat aircraft but would not bring it close to parity with India." On the other hand, "If India were to add F-16s or F/A-18s to its inventory, the disparity in aviation capabilities between the two countries would grow even more." Quoting Indian perceptions over Pakistan's enhanced nuclear delivery capability with new F-16s, the report says, "The 32 F-16s that Pakistan already fields are believed to be nuclear capable, additional F-16s don't appear to introduce new capabilities but may expand existing ones." The issues raised in the Congressional report cover everything from the spill-over to diplomatic relations to military implications vis-a-vis China and Russia, and touches upon the uncertainty for the US military-industry complex itself.

The Times of India, 25 May 2005

Britspeak crashes flying Indians' pride (RASHMEE ROSHAN LALL)

RAF VALLEY (North Wales): From this, the bleak windswept bowl within the Welsh mountains that is known to aviation aficionados around the world as the home of the Hawk jet trainer craft, surprising feedback on India's linguistic pride and joy - English, as she is spoke. On Monday, the tail end of 11 months training for six ace Indian Air Force (IAF) pilots on the Hawk jets, British instructors, officials and even our own men acknowledged that the biggest logistical problems the Indians faced was "the English language". Squadron leader Gareth Roberts, lead instructor to the Indian pilots, told The Times of India: "The initial difficulty was with the English language. When you're in the air and hearing instructions on the intercom, it can be difficult." Agreed Flying Officer Manoj Garg, the Lucknow boy who won a course-completion prize for "most improved" pilot: "A major difficulty was the language." Added Dave Corfield, British Aerospace Systems project director for the India-Advanced Jet Trainers Programme, "English is not their first language, it's a foreign language for them."

The Times of India, 25 May 2005

Unsafe! India's airspace has many gaping holes (RAJAT PANDIT)

NEW DELHI: If you thought that surveillance of India's airspace was impregnable, think again. There are still "many gaping holes" in the country's radar network to detect intrusions by hostile aircraft or missiles. The situation is particularly alarming in central and peninsular India because most of the existing surveillance systems are tasked for monitoring the western and northern borders, which have "higher threat perceptions". Vast swathes of airspace in central and peninsular India are "quite bereft" of surveillance, especially in the arena of medium-level and low-level radar coverage. On the western and northern borders, too, more airborne radars and low-level transportable and light-weight radars are needed to bolster coverage, say sources. "Effective air defence requires an overlapping and integrated network of low, medium and high-level radar coverage to ensure timely detection of air intrusions, which can then be neutralised," says an IAF officer. The multi-layered Air Defence Ground Environment System (ADGES) network, responsible for managing India's vast airspace, for one, needs to be swiftly upgraded. IAF, for instance, needs around 110 low-level surveillance radars but is making do with 38 at present.

The Times of India, 25 May 2005

India may use trainer as combat aircraft

RAF VALLEY, NORTH WALES: India will not scruple to use the 66 Hawk Advanced Jet Trainers it bought from Britain as "a combat aircraft should an operational scenario present itself," the head of Indian Air Force (IAF) training command has said, sparking British concern about renewed international controversy over the UK's 30-year export success story. Just hours after six ace Indian airmen were commended by Prince Charles, heir to the British throne, for completing the first Indo-British Hawk flying course here, Air Marshal S Bhojwani said the small, sleek, sub-sonic jets could be used in combat because "when the chips are down (they are like) any aircraft which is capable of carrying weapons." He said he was not aware of the details of the contract between the Indian government and Hawk manufacturer BAe Systems, limiting aircraft use to pilot training.

Reacting to Bhojwani's remarks, a spokesman for UK's Defence Export Services Organisation (Deso), said, "If the IAF want to use the aircraft in any other role, I'm sure they'd want to consult us. Britain's acute sensitivity about so-called end-user agreements for Hawk jets comes after years of bad publicity.

The Tribune, 27 May 2005

Pakistan seeks 75 new F-16s

Washington, May 26: Pakistan has sought prices for buying as many as 75 new F-16 C/D Falcon fighter aircraft since the Bush administration announced it would resume sales, the head of the Pentagon agency handling the matter said.

The Daily Times, 27 May 2005

India buying 132 Hawks from UK

ISLAMABAD: India will buy 132 Hawk jet trainers from Britain, BBC radio reported on Thursday. The first batch of 24 aircraft will be built in Britain and the rest in the Indian city of Bangalore, the radio quoted Air Marshal Bhojwani, the commander-in-chief of training of the Indian Air Force (IAF), as saying. Mr Bhojwani said that 132 Hawk trainers were the safest aircraft and training for 75 Indian pilots was part of the 793 million-pound deal. "The Hawk aircraft have many capabilities. If the need arises, we will use them for war purposes," the IAF official concluded.

The Hindu, 27 May 2005

No pressure from U.S. on F-16: Air Chief

BANGALORE: The Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal S.P. Tyagi, said on Thursday that there is no pressure from the United States to buy the F-16 fighter aircraft for the Indian Air Force. "There is no pressure from anyone. We will buy any aircraft we need. After all, we are paying for them," he told mediapersons after calling on Karnataka Chief Minister N. Dharam Singh here. Asked about inducting the HAL-designed Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) into the IAF, he said: "We are indenting for 20 LCAs and there is no doubt about it. I am happy with the performance of the LCA and glad we are advancing technologically to produce one of the better fighters; I wish the LCA development was faster." On buying 126 fighter jets for the IAF, Air Chief Marshal Tyagi said: "We have offers from four manufacturers. From Russia for MiG 29s, from France for the Mirage and from Sweden for the Grippen and from the U.S. for the F-16s. Since the U.S. Government has already cleared U.S. aircraft companies, others in that country too can enter the competition."

The News, 31 May 2005

Saadat flies by F-16 deterrence value: Acquisition of jets won't bridge imbalance with India, admits air chief (Shakil Shaikh)

ISLAMABAD: The US would complete the process of approving Pakistan's request for 75 multifaceted F-16 Fighting Falcons by September or October, hoped Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Kaleem Saadat here Monday. "It's not a done deal either way....we want 75 advanced version Falcons of which 50 to 55 must be Cs and Ds class and others may be used but upgraded ones," he said. He was giving an interview to The News/Jang panel comprising Fahd Hussain (Editor, The News, Rawalpindi), Shakil Shaikh (Chief Reporter, The News, Rawalpindi), Hanif Khalid (Chief Reporter Daily Jang) and Rana Ghulam Qader (Staff Report Daily Jang) at his Air Headquarters office. He said, "Pakistan has already rejected the offer of 25 F-16 jets by the Americans." Saadat said even with the arrival of Falcons, disparity gap of the fighter jets between India and Pakistan would not be bridged. "But we should have an air force with deterrence value, as a few dozen Falcons would not be acceptable to us." The General Dynamics F-16A and two-seat F-16B were succeeded in 1983 by the F-16C and two-seat F-16D, with new radar, totally upgraded avionics, a new cockpit and many extra items including two Lantirn pods filled with infrared, laser and other types of sensor which assist in night attack. Pakistan, the air force chief said, would like to have as many F-16 Falcons as it is possible given the ground realities. "We want a number of multi-role Cs and Ds F-16 Falcons which restore our original capability."