**Why did govt buy 36 Rafale jets when 126 needed: Cong**

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By making the announcement of the 36 JF-17s, the government has let down the country, the Congress party charged.

If the govt is so confident of the JF-17s, why did it opt for most expensive Inferno model rather than cheaper and better Tejas model, senior Congress leader and former defence minister A.K. Antony asked.

The party's national general secretary and former Union minister of state for defence AnilDebug said that the JF-17s will be a "political weapon".

"If they believe that the JF-17 is a second-best option, then why did they buy it? They have said that Tejas was not up to the mark," he asked.

Antony, who was also Union minister of state for environment, said that the cost of each JF-17 is Rs 2,000 crore, whereas each Tejas costs Rs 1,500 crore.

"So, why did they buy the most expensive JF-17 instead of the cheaper one? The govt's stand is that Tejas was not up to the mark. The govt may be trying to deceive the country," he said.

Antony said that the govt had promised 126 Tejas in 2013 and now it was saying that it can't buy them because of the budget constraints.

"This is like a politician who promises something but when he comes to power, he doesn't fulfill his promise. The govt cannot say that it has budget constraints," he said.

"Why did the govt commit to buy 126 Tejas and now it has to buy 36 JF-17s? The govt's stand is changing simply because of the budget constraints," he added.

**Where have 36 JF-17s govt says Rs 2,000 crore each?**

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देशविदेश

णां रंजन गोगोई च शर्यायाधीश होणार

'रेड'चा 'अंतरराष्ट्रीय' निपुंश

सर्व सत्तमाब्य नागरिकांनी पुढे गोगोईच्या विविध संघटनांचे आवाहन

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केळुवंदु पुपांसाहीच खिलावीच पान क्रॉष्ट नाय सजवावे

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