

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:698

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2005

EXODUS OF PILOTS FROM IAF

Jagannath Dr. M.;Meghwal Shri Kailash;Nayak Smt. Archana

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Air Force is facing difficulty as its pilots are being attracted by the civilian airline industry;
- (b) if so, whether the Indian Air Force is in a position to spare its pilots; and
- (c) if not, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to prevent the exodus of trained pilots from the Indian Air Force?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) & (c): The requests for acceptance of premature retirement/resignation from the pilots are considered according to Government instructions. Only those pilots who are superceded or are in low medical category or have extreme compassionate grounds are released from service. The majority of the pilots released from service have already completed their useful tenure as pilots. This release of pilots does not affect the operational status of the Indian Air Force.