

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3081

ANSWERED ON:11.05.2006

PREMATURE RETIREMENT BY PILOTS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Maheshwari Smt. Kiran;Malhotra Prof. Vijay Kumar;Rawat Shri Kamla Prasad;Singh Shri Chandra Bhushan;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan;Tripathi Shri Chandramani;Varma Shri Ratilal Kalidas

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of pilots in the Indian Air Force took premature retirement/resigned during the last three years;
- (b) whether the Government is aware that a large number of pilots in the Indian Air Force are looking for suitable opportunities to resign from the services to join private airlines as reported in the Navbharat Times dated April 12, 2006;
- (c) if so, the facts thereof;
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to prevent the exodus of pilots;
- (e) whether the Government has identified the root causes of the matter; and
- (f) if so, the action taken by the Government to overcome the situation?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) The number of pilots who took premature retirement/resigned in the last three years is as follows:

Reason	2003	2004	2005
Premature Retirement	72	116	58
Resignation	Nil	Nil	Nil

(b) to (f): The requests for acceptance of premature retirement/resignation from the pilots are considered as per Government instructions. The majority of pilots released from service have already completed their useful tenure as pilots. These exits do not affect the operational status of the squadrons. The improvement in the job profile of the IAF pilots is a continuous phenomenon and is undertaken regularly.