

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4798  
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2008  
SHORTAGE OF AIRCRAFT CARRIER  
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Masood Shri Rasheed

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there is an acute shortage of Aircraft carrier and aircrafts to be used therein;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the situation has been aggravated due to delay in acquisition of the carrier Admiral Gorshkov;
- (d) if so, whether the Government is exploring other avenues for acquisition of Aircraft Carrier; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) to (c): The Indian Navy presently has one aircraft carrier with limited number of integral fighter aircraft and helicopters. One indigenous Aircraft Carrier is under construction at Cochin Shipyard Limited, Kochi. Besides, INS Vikramaditya (ex Admiral Gorshkov) is being refitted in Russia. Existing aircraft are being upgraded and additional fighter aircraft are being inducted.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) The need for contacting other country does not arise.