

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:618
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2005
JOINING OF UN PEACEKEEPING MISSION IN CONGO
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Armed Forces have joined UN Peacekeeping Mission in Congo;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the criteria adopted for selection of such team; and
- (d) the number of troops joined UN Peacekeeping Mission in Congo so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

- (a) & (b): An Infantry Brigade Group, two Indian Aviation contingents and one Airfield Support Unit contingent are stationed in Congo.
- (c) Infantry battalions of all regiments are given a chance to be deployed in UN Missions by rotation. A roster to this effect have already been prepared and is being followed. Units who fare exceedingly well in operational and in overall performance are normally preferred over others.

The team composition in respect of Air Force is worked out on the basis of the organisational structure of an operational unit capable of carrying out independent operations.

- (d) The number of troops who have joined UN Peacekeeping Mission in Congo so far, is 3529.