

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4914

ANSWERED ON:26.04.2010

PHASING OUT OF MIG AIRCRAFT

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

- (a) whether the MIG series aircraft constitute bulk of the combat fleet of Air Force;
- (b) if so, the number of various variants of MIG series aircraft including MIG-21 and MIG-27 crashed during the last three years;
- (c) the details of losses including the number of pilots and civilians killed/injured in the crashes during the said period;
- (d) the details of maintenance of the MIG Fleet quality control of its spare parts and state of training of the pilots;
- (e) whether the Government proposes to phase out some variants of MIG aircraft;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be completed; and
- (g) the action initiated to replace these aircraft and the total funds required for the purpose?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): MiG series aircraft constitute bulk of the combat fleet of the Indian Air Force (IAF). A total number of 21 MiG series aircraft have crashed during the last three years.

(c) Besides the loss of aircraft, four pilots were killed in these accidents. No civilian was killed/injured in these accidents.

(d) Maintenance of MiG series fleet is based on the maintenance philosophy prescribed by the Original Equipment Manufacturer as given in the Maintenance Manuals and evolved with practical experience of flying in IAF over years. The spare parts of MiG series aircraft are procured through Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and indigenous vendors as per policies in vogue ensuring adequate quality control. The trainees are undergoing full stipulated duration / training in their flying courses.

(e) to (g): Phasing out of a particular aircraft and its replacement is decided based on operational requirements of IAF which is reviewed from time to time. Adequate funds are budgetted for the same.