

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1816

ANSWERED ON:07.03.2011

PROCUREMENT OF FIGHTER AIRCRAFT

Biju Shri P. K.;Rani Killi Krupa;Shivanagouda Shri Shivaramagouda;Singh Chaudhary Lal;Tomar Shri Narendra Singh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a shortage of fighter aircraft and helicopters in the Indian Air Force;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has signed deal with the USA for procurement of fighter aircraft;
- (d) if so, the details thereof including the estimated cost of the deal and the delivery schedule;
- (e) the status of procurement of C-130J transport aircraft from USA; and
- (f) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken for procurement of helicopters?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) & (b): The requirement of aircraft and helicopters is periodically reviewed and it is ensured that the operational requirements of the Indian Air Force (IAF) are met.
- (c) No, Madam.
- (d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.
- (e) The Letter of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) for procurement of six C-130J-30 aircraft was signed with the Government of the United States of America on 31st January, 2008. The first aircraft arrived in India on 5th February, 2011. The project is on schedule.
- (f) The proposals for procurement of Attack Helicopters and Heavy Lift Helicopters for the IAF are being progressed in accordance with the Defence Procurement Procedure.