

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1078  
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2011  
OBSOLETE EQUIPMENT IN AIR FORCE  
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

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

- (a) whether the major part of the equipment of Indian Air Force (IAF) is obsolete;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the measures taken by the IAF to replace obsolete equipment with latest technology;
- (d) whether the Government has ascertained the preparedness of the IAF to face the emerging security challenges and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the IAF is still facing shortage of officers; and
- (f) if so, the action taken to encourage the youths to join IAF?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) No, Madam.
- (b) Question does not arise.
- (c) & (d): The replacement of obsolete equipment and upgradation of the fleet is a continuous, ongoing process. Necessary measures are being taken to modernize the capability of the IAF so as to meet any challenge.
- (e) As on 01.11.2011 there was a shortage of 561 officers in the IAF.
- (f) Several measures are being taken to encourage the youth to opt for a career in IAF, including conduct of career fairs and exhibitions, advertisements, motivational lectures in the schools, colleges, fast track selection, etc.