

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1141

ANSWERED ON:28.11.2011

SHORTAGE OF RADARS IN AIR FORCE

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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Air Force (IAF) is facing shortage of radars for the Eastern and Western borders of the country and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether a multi-crore aerostat radar purchased from Israel was damaged due to lapses on the part of certain officials;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps being taken to plug gaping holes in radar coverage along the eastern and western borders?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) The capability build-up of IAF envisages procurement of radars of various classes. The induction of these systems along with network centricity is aimed at a gap-free Air Defence cover along the Eastern and Western borders.
- (b) & (c): The Court of Inquiry instituted after the damage to the Aerostat radar revealed that the accident occurred due to a sudden gust of wind in a span of 100 seconds, which was difficult to forecast. The Court of Inquiry has recommended 'Administrative Action' against three officers involved in the accident, who have been awarded 'Severe displeasure' for six months.
- (d) The IAF is in the process of procuring aerial reconnaissance aircraft, additional Aerostat Radar Systems as well as various types of radars that are expected to provide a gap-free Air Defence coverage along the Eastern and Western borders.