

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6197  
ANSWERED ON:14.05.2012  
MEDIUM LIFT HELICOPTERS  
Patel Shri Bal Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Indian Air Force has adequate number of Medium Lift Helicopters to meet its operational requirements;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Air Headquarters has modified certain number of such helicopters for VIP use;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (e) whether approval was taken to modify these helicopters; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) & (b): Yes Madam, Indian Air Force has adequate number of Medium Lift Helicopters like Mi-8, Mi-17 and Mi-17 IV to meet its operational requirements.
- (c) to (e): Six Mi-17 helicopters have been modified with the approval of the Government for the use of VIPs as they have been designed for better performance at high altitude and high temperatures during summer months.
- (f) Does not arise.