

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2356  
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2012  
SHORTAGE OF PILOTS  
Balram Shri P.

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

- (a) whether the Indian Air Force is facing the shortage of pilots including women pilots;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to meet the shortage?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b): The available strength of pilots in Air Force is sufficient to meet the current operational requirements of the Indian Air Force. The present strength of pilots as on 1st August, 2012 is 3261 against the sanctioned strength of 3924.

(c) Concerted efforts have been undertaken by the IAF to carry out a proactive publicity campaign in order to reach the target group across the country such as (i) Participation in Career Fairs and Exhibitions to enhance one-on-one interaction (ii) Advertisements in Print and Electronic media including Recruitment and Career related articles. (iii) Motivational lectures in school / colleges (iv) Distribution of creative and eye catching publicity material / promotional material for distribution to target group (v) Visuals / Signage at vantage points all over the country in phased manner at strategic locations.