

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:670
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2009
SHORTAGE OF PILOTS IN AIR FORCE
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra;Reddy Shri Anantha Venkatarami

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of pilots of Air Force have sought voluntary retirement;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the shortage of pilots at present; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to meet the existing shortage?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) No, Madam.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Concerted efforts are made to carry out a proactive publicity campaign to reach the target group across the country, such as
 - (i) participation in career fairs and exhibitions to enhance one-to-one interaction;
 - (ii) advertisement in print and electronic media including recruitment and career related articles;
 - (iii) motivational lectures in schools/colleges;
 - (iv) distribution of publicity material to target group;
 - (v) visuals/signages at vantage points all over the country at strategic locations. The Short Service Commission for Flying branch has been modified to also make Men also eligible for induction in this branch. The implementation of the recommendations of VIth Central Pay Commission shall also go a long way in attracting youth.