GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2751
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012
CRASHING OF DEFENCE AIRCRAFT
Chavan Shri Harischandra Deoram;Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of defence aircraft including MIG-21 crashed during the last three years till date, category-wise and place-wise;

(b) whether any inquiry committee has been constituted to find out the reasons for the crash;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the loss of life and property suffered and the remedial measures taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) Details of defence aircraft crashed during 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 till 05.12.2012 is at Appendix 'A'.

(b) & (c): Every accident / incident is followed by Court / Board of Inquiry and the recommendations of all the completed Court / Board of Inquiry have been implemented.

(d) In the above accidents a total of 66 Defence personnel and 06 civilians have lost their lives. Compensation for loss of lives and properties are paid as per extant Government orders / instructions. Indian Air Force (IAF) has taken various remedial measures like invigoration of aviation safety organization, streamlining of accident / incident reporting procedure, analytical studies and quality audits of the aircraft fleets to identify vulnerable areas to reduce aircraft accidents. Ornithology cell, which carries out bird surveys at flying bases and suggests bird prevention modules, has been established at the Directorate of Flight Safety. Visit of all flying bases by Senior Aviation Safety functionaries of the IAF has been undertaken to apprise and caution the operating units about the causes of the accidents and to get views towards enhancing aviation safety. Accident prevention programmes by the services have been given an added thrust to identify risk prone / hazardous areas specific to the aircraft fleets and operational environment to ensure safe practices / procedures.