

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1003
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2013
DEPLOYMENT OF AWACS
Viswanathan Shri P.

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Airborne Warning And Control System (AWACS) been deployed by India at present;
- (b) whether they are sufficient to cover the entire air space of our country;
- (c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to procure long range aircraft having more powerful surveillance system;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to introduce indigenous AWACS; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (c): Three Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS) aircraft are presently operationalised in the Indian Air Force (IAF). AWACS are meant as force multipliers for specific area cover and not for surveillance of the entire space of our country. All three AWACS are part of Network Centric Operations and are able to provide adequate coverage of specified areas in Net Centric Operations. Enhancement of airborne surveillance and Command & Control capabilities of IAF is sought to be achieved through procurement of additional AWACS.

(d) & (e): To leverage the experience and expertise gained in the design and development of Airborne Early Warning & Control Systems, a project proposal for indigenous development of AWACS (India) by DRDO has been approved by the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) on 12th February, 2013. The development of AWACS (India) is envisaged to be completed in 84 months from the date of formal sanction of the Programme.