

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1182
ANSWERED ON:13.07.2009
CRASH OF AIRCRAFT AND HELICOPTERS
Dubey Shri Nishikant ;Sidhu Shri Navjot Singh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of aircraft and helicopters crashed during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the loss of lives and property suffered as a result thereof;
- (c) the reasons for frequent air crashes in the country; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to prevent recurrence of such incidents?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) The number of aircraft and helicopters that crashed during each of the last three financial years and the current year are as follows:-

Financial year Aircraft Helicopter

| | | |
|-------------------|----|---|
| 2006-2007 | 9 | 5 |
| 2007-2008 | 12 | 5 |
| 2008-2009 | 11 | 8 |
| 2009-2010 | 5 | 1 |
| (till 02-07-2009) | | |

Total:
37 19

- (b) 34 service personnel were killed in these accidents. There was no loss of civil life. The loss to civil property amounted to Rs.6,32,047.
- (c) The major reasons for aircraft accidents in the Defence Forces are Human Errors and Technical Defects.
- (d) In each case of accident, an investigation is carried out and appropriate remedial actions are taken. Besides, a continuous and multi-faceted effort is always underway in the Defence Forces to enhance and upgrade flight safety. Measures to enhance the quality of training to improve the skill levels, ability to exercise sound judgment and situational awareness of pilots are being pursued. Constant interaction with Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), both indigenous and foreign, is also maintained to overcome the technical defects of aircraft.