

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2741

ANSWERED ON:07.12.2009

TRAINER AIRCRAFT IN AIR FORCE

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Deora Shri Milind Murl;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Hussain Shri Syed Shahnawaz

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

- (a) whether the Indian Air Force (IAF) has grounded its entire fleet of initial trainer aircraft HPT-32;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of HPT-32 aircraft crashed so far and the number of pilots killed therein;
- (d) the total loss suffered by the IAF as a result thereof;
- (e) the inquiry conducted and the outcome thereof;
- (f) whether the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has decided to design and develop the much needed ab initio turbo trainer for the IAF and the Navy in collaboration with foreign partner; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof and the efforts made by the HAL in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (e): The Indian Air Force (IAF) has presently grounded its entire fleet of initial trainer HPT-32 aircraft following a fatal accident on 31.07.2009.

A total number of 17 HPT-32 aircraft have crashed till date and 19 pilots have lost their lives in these accidents. The total loss suffered as a result of these accidents amounts to Rs. 16,21,35,054/-. Each crash of Defence aircraft is investigated through a Court of Inquiry and remedial measures are undertaken accordingly.

(f) & (g): Preliminary design work on the turbo prop trainer aircraft has already commenced in the Aircraft Research & Design Centre of HAL.