

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3819
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2009
SQUADRON STRENGTH OF AIR FORCE
Vardhan Shri Harsh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Air Force has not been provided the sanctioned squadron strength;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor indicating the sanctioned strength vis-à-vis actual strength; and
- (c) the steps being taken to increase the squadron strength?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (c): The Government constantly reviews the security environment to ensure adequate defence preparedness and combat strength of the Indian Air Force (IAF). The IAF is presently in the process of augmenting and modernizing its fleet by development and procurement of various aircraft including Medium Multi Role Combat Aircraft, the indigenous Light Combat Aircraft, Airborne Warning & Control System Aircraft and Fifth Generation Fighter Aircraft. It is also upgrading its existing aircraft to enhance their combat capabilities.