

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3815

ANSWERED ON:24.03.2017

Pilots in IAF

Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari;Shekhawat Shri Gajendra Singh

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

- (a) the details of the sanctioned strength of pilots, number of pilots and trainer aircraft for their training available in Indian Air Force (IAF) across the country;
- (b) whether the gap between sanctioned and actual strength of pilots has widened in IAF during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (d) whether the Government has conducted any study on the adverse impact of such shortage of pilots on the working of existing pilots;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) the other steps taken / being taken by the Government to bridge the gap between sanctioned and actual strength of pilots of IAF along with the measures taken to raise the salary and other perquisites of IAF pilots?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE (DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)

IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

????? ?????? ?????? (??, ?????? ??????)

(a) to (f): The available strength of pilots in Air Force is sufficient to meet the current operational requirements of the Indian Air Force (IAF). Further, adequate number of trainer aircraft are in place in the IAF for imparting training to pilots. These include Pilatus PC-7 Mk-II (Basic Trainer Aircraft), Kiran Mk IIA (Intermediate Jet Trainer) and Hawk Mk-132 (Advance Jet Trainer) aircraft.

However, Government has taken a number of measures to encourage the youth to join the defence forces, including sustained image projection, proactive publicity campaign to create awareness among the youth on the advantages of taking up a challenging and satisfying career. The salary and other perquisites to all defence personnel including IAF pilots are provided as per extant provisions in this regard. These are revised from time to time.

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