

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

RAJYA SABHA

QUESTION NO 09.12.2009

ANSWERED ON

VOLUNTARY RETIREMENT BY PILOTS OF IAF .

2188

Smt. Jaya Bachchan

Will the Minister of COALCOALDEFENCE be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether it is a fact that about 100 Air Force pilots have sought voluntary retirement;
- (b) if so, the reasons given by these pilots in support of their requests; and
- (c) the action Government has taken on their requests and to augment the strength and increase the number of pilots in the Air Force?

ANSWER

(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

MINISTER OF DEFENCE

(a) to (c): Around 101 pilots of IAF have applied for grant of Premature Retirement during the last one year. The broad reasons furnished by the applicants for grant of Premature Retirement are Supersession, Lack of Career Progression, Medical/compassionate etc. Such applications are considered on a case to case basis in accordance with extant Government policy and service exigencies. Concerted efforts are taken by the Indian Air Force to carry out a proactive publicity campaign to reach the target group across the country, such as

- (i) participation in career fairs and exhibitions to enhance one-to-one interaction;
- (ii) advertisement in print and electronic media including recruitment and career related articles;
- (iii) motivational lectures in schools/colleges;
- (iv) distribution of publicity material to target group;
- (v) visuals/signages at vantage points all over the country at strategic locations. The Short Service Commission for Flying branch has been modified to make men also eligible for induction in this branch. The implementation of the recommendations of VIth Central Pay Commission will also go a long way in attracting youth.