

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3633
ANSWERED ON:10.09.2007
AIR FORCE BASES
Botcha Lakshmi Smt. Jhansi;Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Air Force Bases in the country ;
- (b) whether all of them have night landing facilities;
- (c) if not, the number of bases without such facilities and the reasons herefore;
- (d) whether these bases can be used at short notice;
- (e) if so, the details thereof;
- (f) whether operations at several bases are obstructed and jeopardized by blue bulls and other animals straying over the runways; and
- (g) if so, the steps taken to keep the runways safe at all times?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (e): Majority of the Indian Air Force bases (IAF) have night landing facilities. However, even at the Air Force bases which do not have night landing facilities, emergency (portable) runway lights can be activated at appropriate notice by mobilizing the required resources from near by air bases.

(f)&(g) : A few IAF airbases have faced the problem of blue bull and other animals straying over the runways. Efforts are constantly made to prevent these animals from straying towards the runway by appropriate fencing and instituting manual scaring measures prior to commencement of night operations or expected aircraft movements. Besides, liaisoning with State Government/Forest officials are also done.