

Meetings and normal diplomatic channels. These mechanisms facilitate maintenance of peace.

High obsolescence percentage of IAF's equipments

2828. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA :
SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that obsolescence percentage of Indian Air Forces equipments is very high;
- (b) if so, the magnitude of Indian Air Force's equipment which are obsolete today; and
- (c) the steps taken to bring down the obsolescence percentage?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : (a) and (b) Obsolescence management is a continuous process. Steps are taken to ensure that equipment is fit for operations and has the required combat capability.

(c) Modernization of IAF's fleet is part of the capability building which is a continuous process. This is achieved by continuous upgradation of its older fleets and induction of new weapon platform and systems.

Theft of scrap in Ordnance Depots of Army

2829. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there have been instances of theft of scrap in the Ordnance Depots of the Army during the period when private hired transport help was availed of;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of discrepancies that have been detected in the sale of this scrap to outsiders; and
- (d) what is the action plan to control such and other illegalities that are being committed under this system?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : (a) No such case has come to the notice during recent past.

(b) to (d) Does not arise in view of (a) above.