

**Non-deployment of upgraded AN-32 aircraft
in the North-East**

1587. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that out of the total fleet of over 100 AN-32 aircrafts, IAF has only 46 upgraded AN-32 aircrafts;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that none of the 46 upgraded AN-32 aircrafts were deployed in the North-East by the IAF; and
- (c) if so, reasons for not deploying upgraded AN-32 aircrafts in the North-East by the IAF?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) There are 53 upgraded AN-32 aircraft in the fleet. Aircraft distribution and deployment is as per existing operational requirements across the country.

AN-32-aircraft crash

1588. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN:

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the probe ordered into the cause of the crash of AN-32 aircraft found no survivors in it;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government had informed the families of the victims of the said crash; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) There were no survivors in the crash. A Court of Inquiry has been ordered to probe into the cause of the crash.

(c) and (d) The families of the victims were initially informed that the aircraft was missing. They were also informed about the rescue efforts undertaken. Once the wreckage was located and it was confirmed that there were no survivors, the same was then informed to the families of the victims. A team of officers is in regular touch with the affected families.