

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1841  
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2000  
REVIEW OF RECRUITMENT SYSTEM IN ARMY  
BHAWANA GAWALI (PATIL);CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE

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

- (a) whether the Army has rolled out a new Plan to make its recruitment system fast, transparent and candidate friendly;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the extent to which the new system is likely to encourage the youths to join Indian Army; and
- (d) the details of existing recruitment policy of the Government for Armed forces?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (d): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1841 FC  
3.8.2000

The recruitment of officers in all the three wings of the Armed Forces is carried out on an All- India merit basis depending on the availability of the vacancies.

2. So far as the recruitment of Personnel Below Officer Rank (PBOR) is concerned, recruitment of airmen and sailors in Air Force and Navy respectively is carried out on an All India merit basis depending upon the number of vacancies. However, in the case of the Army, recruitment is done based upon the quota allotted to the State on the basis of its Recruitable Male Population (RMP) and fixed class percentages.

3. With effect from 1.4.1998, the system of recruitment in the Army through application was discontinued and recruitment is being made through open recruitment rallies. Recruitment is done by a recruitment team selected by the concerned Zonal Recruiting Office (ZRO) from a Branch Recruiting Office (BRO) other than the one in whose area of responsibility the rally is held. Thus the local BRO is not involved in the recruitment process and the recruitment process is completed at the rally site itself.

4. The new system is open, transparent, totally fair and candidate-friendly as rallies are conducted in full view of public. It ensures better and faster process of selection, and eliminates/minimises the involvement of agents and touts.

5. The new recruitment system has been successful and has resulted in encouraging youth to join the Army.