

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3655
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2010
NON-COMBAT VACANCIES IN ARMY
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the shortage of officers in the non-combat units of the army;
- (b) the number of Short Service Commissioned male officers inducted as Permanent Commissioned officers vis-à-vis the number of applications received in this regard during the last three years; and
- (c) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken to meet the shortage in non-combat army units?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (c): A Statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3655 FOR ANSWER ON 16.8.2010

There is an overall shortage of around 11,500 officers in the Army as a whole. There are no specified non-combat units in the Army.

Short Service Commissioned Officers (SSCOs) inducted as Permanent Commissioned Officers in the last three years are as under:

| Year | No. of SSCOs opted for Permanent Commission | No. of SSCOs granted for Permanent Commission |
|------|---|---|
|------|---|---|

| | | |
|------|-----|-----|
| 2007 | 157 | 153 |
| 2008 | 135 | 132 |
| 2009 | 216 | 210 |

A number of steps have been taken to attract the talented youth to join the Armed Forces. All officers including those in Short Service Commission (SSC) are now eligible to hold substantive rank of Captain, Major and Lieutenant Colonel after 2, 6 and 13 years of reckonable service respectively. The tenure of SSC officers has been increased from 10 years to 14 years. A total number of 750 posts of Lt. Colonel have been upgraded to Colonel towards implementation of AV Singh Committee Report (Phase-I). Further, 1896 additional posts in the ranks of Colonel, Brigadier, Major General and Lieutenant General and their equivalents in the other two Services have been upgraded towards implementation of AV Singh Committee Report (Phase-II). The implementation of recommendations of the VI Central Pay Commission with substantial improvement in the pay structure of officers of Armed Forces is expected to make the Services more attractive.

The Armed Forces have undertaken sustained image projection and publicity campaign to create awareness among the youth on the advantages of taking up a challenging and satisfying career. Awareness campaigns, participation in career fairs and exhibitions, advertisements in print and electronic media, motivational lectures in schools, colleges are also some of the other measures in this direction.