

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4080
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2009
CHIEF OF DEFENCE STAFF
Botcha Lakshmi Smt. Jhansi

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the concrete steps taken by the Government for creation of the post of Chief of Defence Staff;
- (b) the latest position thereof; and
- (c) the existing structures in the Ministry to ensure proper coordination among the three forces?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The Group of Ministers' report on 'Reforming the National Security System' presented to the Government in February 2001 recommended the creation of the institution of Chief of Defence Staff. The Government has decided to take a view on the creation of the post of Chief of Defence Staff after consulting various political parties and accordingly, had initiated the process of consultation with political parties in March 2006. Raksha Mantri has written to various national level political parties. So far six parties have responded. Reminders have been issued to the parties who have not replied to the letter of the Raksha Mantri.

(c): The Chiefs of Staff Committee (COSC) is the main coordinating body between the Services. The Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQIDS), functioning under the COSC acts as the nodal organisation to promote jointness among the Services.