

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1907
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2010
RECRUITMENT IN ARMED FORCES
Ghubaya Shri Sher Singh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to make special arrangements to give preferential treatment in candidates hailing from border areas of the country in recruitment to armed forces in view of the fact that border areas are educationally and industrially backward;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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. 1907 FOR ANSWER ON 22.11.2010

Recruitment of officers in armed forces is done on All India Merit basis. IN respect of recruitment of Personnel Below Officers Rank (PBORs), the position is as under:-

Army:- Preferential treatment is given only in the form of Education and Physical dispensation granted to such candidates.

Against standard qualification of matriculation with 45% marks in aggregate and 32% marks in individual subjects, candidates from border areas are eligible for enrolment in Army with qualification of class VIII or class X simple pass depending on the level of deprivation of the specified area. Level of dispensation is decided based on the recommendation of a Board of officers headed by an officer of the rank of Lt. Gen.

Dispensation is given to candidates of such states for enrolment also in height e.g. candidates from North Eastern states are eligible for enrolment with height of 160 cm against standard height of 166 cm-170 cm for others depending on the region of the country.

Air Force: The recruitment is based on All India merit. Recruitment rallies are also conducted in order to give opportunities to the youth hailing from remote/low response/borders/insurgency affected or hilly districts and island territories of the country. Through these Recruitment Rallies, Air Force reaches out to those candidates from remote and far flung areas, who otherwise are unable to avail the facilities of Scheduled Selection Test.

Navy: Recruitment in the Navy is carried out all over India in accordance with the Naval recruitment plan which is application based and selection is purely by merit.

The existing system is fair and it provides equitable opportunity to eligible citizens from all States.