

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:214

ANSWERED ON:01.08.2011

WOMEN IN ARMED FORCES

Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash; Rao Shri Sambasiva Rayapati

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the actual strength of women personnel in the three Services of the Armed Forces during the last three years and the current year, Service-wise;
- (b) whether the Government proposes to increase the percentage of women personnel in the forces and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the women officers are being considered only for the Short Service Commission and that too confined to a few streams/fields only;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to create more avenues for women in Armed Forces; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and also the status of the proposal to grant Permanent Commission to women officers?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE(SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 214 FOR ANSWER ON 1.8.2011

Women are inducted in Armed Forces as officers. There is no separate fixed sanctioned strength for recruitment of Women in the Armed Forces and they are recruited within the overall authorised strength of the respective Services. The present strength of women officers in the three Services of the Armed Forces during the last three years and the current year (Service-wise), is as under:

Year Strength of Women Officers
(Excluding Army Medical Corps, Army Dental
Corps and Military Nursing Services)

Army Navy Air Force

2008 1072 173 957

2009 1030 176 915

2010 999 191 889

2011 1055 232 936

At present, women are inducted as Short Service Commission officers in select support arms and services. Government, vide its order dated 26.9.2008, have granted permanent commission prospectively to Short Service Commission (Women) officers to be inducted in Judge Advocate General (JAG) Department and Army Education Corps (AEC) of Army and their corresponding Branch/Cadre in Navy and Air Force, Accounts Branch of the Air Force and Naval Constructor of the Navy.