

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:238
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012
SHORTAGE OF MANPOWER IN ARMED FORCES
Biju Shri P. K.

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is an acute shortage of manpower in the armed forces and if so, the details thereof, service, category and rank-wise vis-À-vis the number of cadets passing out from the various academies every year;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any study to find out the reasons for the shortage and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a number of personnel have sought pre-mature retirement from the services and if so, the details thereof including the number of personnel who were relieved during the last three years and the current year;
- (d) whether the Government has taken special measures to attract youngsters to join the defence forces and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the other measures being taken / proposed to be taken by the Government to fill up the vacant posts in all the services of the armed forces?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (e) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 238 FOR ANSWER ON 10.12.2012

(a) Details of the shortage of the manpower in the Armed Forces, service-wise are as under:

Army	Navy	Air Force	
(as on 30.9.2012)	(as on 1.12.2012)		
Officers	PBORs	Officers Sailors	Officers Airmen
(as on	(as on		
1.7.2012)	1.10.2011)		
10100	32431		
1996	14310	962	7000

Further, a total of 9001 cadets passed out from the various academies since the year 2010.

(b) Some of the major reasons for vacancies in Armed Forces include accretion in force level from time to time, availability of multiple and lucrative alternative career avenues with the growth of nation's economy, stringent selection criteria and difficult service conditions coupled with perceived high degree of risk.

(c) Number of personnel who have taken premature retirement during the last three years and the current year is as under:

Year Army Navy Air Force

2009 7798 161 577

2010 7514 150 828

2011 10603 157 1000

2012 10081 170 571

(d) & (e): Government has taken a number of measures to encourage the youth to join the Armed Forces, including conduct of recruitment rallies, media campaign etc. Further, Government has taken various steps to make armed forces jobs attractive for youngsters. These include implementation of the recommendations of the VI Central Pay Commission with improved pay structure, additional family accommodation through Married Accommodation Project (MAP) and improvement in promotion prospects in the Armed forces.