

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1440
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2012
HONOUR TO SPORTS PERSONS
Reddy Shri Mekapati Rajamohan

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government offers honorary ranks to eminent sports persons in defence forces;
- (b) if so, the purpose of conferring such ranks;
- (c) if so, the details of ranks conferred during the last three years;
- (d) whether such sports persons fulfil their obligations for the ranks conferred on them;
- (e) whether the Government has any procedure in this regard and proposes to discontinue the practice;
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (f): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1440 FOR ANSWER ON 3.12.2012

- (a) Yes, Madam.
- (b) These ranks are conferred to eminent sports persons to honour them for rendering service of a high order to the Indian Union.
- (c) Details of ranks conferred to eminent sports personalities during the last three years are as under:
 - (i) Sachin Tendulkar, Group Captain in Indian Air Force.
 - (ii) Abhinav Bindra, Lt. Colonel in Territorial Army.
 - (iii) M S Dhoni, Lt. Colonel in Territorial Army.
- (d) There are no laid down obligations for the persons who are conferred honorary ranks.
- (e) Laid down procedures are followed in this regard to conferring honorary ranks to eminent sports persons. At present, there is no such proposal to discontinue the practice.
- (f) Not applicable.