

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2732

ANSWERED ON:10.12.2012

WORKING CONDITIONS OF SCIENTISTS AT DRDO

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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether dozens of top scientists at the Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) are working on extended tenures;
- (b) whether DRDO is facing the problem of human resource especially shortage of scientists for their projects;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the Government favours the policy of retaining officers or specialists after their retirement; and
- (e) if so, the reasons for retaining them and steps being taken to impart training to new scientists and improve efficiency of DRDO?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

- (a) Presently, 11 Distinguished (top) Scientists are working in Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on extended tenures.
- (b) & (c): There is no critical shortage of manpower in DRDO. However, a case has been taken up with Government for augmentation of its manpower to meet the requirements of ongoing and future projects.
- (d) & (e): As per existing provision, scientists and technologists can be given extension in service. This extension is granted keeping in view their knowledge and merit in the concerned fields. Therefore, DRDO is utilizing rich experience and knowledge of these scientists in on-going research works.

DRDO has been giving due importance to training. The Organization has dedicated training institutes, such as Targeted Training Centre at Bangalore, Institute of Technology Management (ITM) at Mussoorie, Training Institute at Jodhpur, Military Institute of Training (MILIT) at Pune. DRDO has a well established training policy, whereby training programmes for scientists are organized / sponsored in technical and techno-managerial areas through renowned academic institutes / universities / other organizations from India and abroad.