

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4552
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2013
PERMANENT COMMISSION TO WOMEN OFFICERS
Kurup Shri N.Peethambara;Punia Shri P.L.

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number and details of the women recruited both as Commissioned and Non-Commissioned Officers including Medical / Nursing Service during each of the last three years, Service-wise, State-wise;
- (b) whether the number of women in armed forces is as per the sanctioned strength and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to induct more women both in non-combat and combat duties including that of fighter pilots and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to grant permanent commission to women officers in view of the recent Delhi High Court orders to this effect;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which it is likely to be implemented in all the three services of the armed forces; and
- (f) whether the Government proposes to reinstate all the women officers who retired after their short service commission tenure in armed forces and 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. 4552 FOR ANSWER ON 22.4.2013

(a) & (b): In the Armed Forces, women are recruited as Short Service Commissioned Officers (SSCOs) on all India merit basis within the overall authorized strength of the officers' cadre. State-wise data is, therefore, not maintained. Details of Women Officers commissioned in the Armed Forces including Armed Forces Medical Services during last three years are as under:

Year	Army	Navy	Air Force	Armed Forces Medical Services
	Army	Army	Military	
	Medical	Dental	Nursing	
	Service	Service	Service	
2010	93	39	145	59 03 606
2011	164	68	134	46 09 97
2012	157	31	125	34 11 156

(c) There is no proposal at present to induct women into combat duties in the defence forces including as fighter pilots in Indian Air Force. Induction of women in combat duties has not been recommended by the studies carried out by the Headquarters Integrated Defence Staff (HQ IDS) in 2006 and High Level Tri-Services Committee in 2011. However, efforts are going on to increase the women officers in non-combat stream.

(d) to (f): Presently, grant of Permanent Commission to women officers in the Armed Forces is governed by Government policy letter dated 11.11.2011 (copy enclosed). In so far as the order dated 12.3.2010 of the High Court of Delhi is concerned, a Special Leave Petition has been filed, in case of Army, before the Supreme Court Challenging the ibid High Court order and the matter is sub-judice. In case of Air Force, decision has been taken to implement the ibid order of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi. The ibid order of Delhi High Court did not contain any directions in respect of Navy. Women SSCOs, who are covered by the ibid order of High Court of Delhi and other Courts are re-instated.