

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2639  
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2013  
MILITARY NURSING SERVICE  
Antony Shri Anto

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the male candidates are not allowed to join the Military Nursing Service (MNS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has received any representation for opening up MNS to the male candidates; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) & (b) Yes, Madam. Service conditions and by-laws of the Military Nursing Service (MNS) are governed by (The Indian) Military Nursing Service Ordinance 1943 and the Military Nursing Services (India) Rules, 1944, which provide that MNS is an all women cadre of nurses.

(c) & (d) Yes, Madam. Writ Petitions have been filed in the Hon'ble High Court of Karnataka wherein petitioners have challenged the constitutional validity of the Indian Military Nursing Service Ordinance 1943 and the Military Nursing Services (India) Rules, 1944 in so far as the said rules prohibit appointing of male nurses as being eligible for appointment in the Indian Military Nursing Service. The matter is subjudice.