

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2735
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2013
MISSING ANSWER SHEETS
Kalmadi Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the answer sheets of the entrance examination for undergoing a course in the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington went missing from Tezpur in Assam recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (c) the corrective punitive action taken / proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) Yes, Madam.

(b) The mail bag containing answer books of two subjects of DSSC / TSCO Exam, September 2012 from Missamari Centre was lost in transit. All the affected officers were given a fair chance by means of re-test which was conducted in December 2012.

(c) A high level Court of Inquiry was held to ascertain the reasons for the loss and fixing of responsibility for occurrence of the said 'loss of answer books'. The said Court of Inquiry has brought out the following:-

- (i) The loss of DSSC / TSOE 2012 answer books is attributable to negligent handling of mail bags in transit by Air India.
- (ii) No Indian Army personnel in the chain of handling of service mail is directly responsible for loss.
- (iii) There is no counter intelligence angle involved in the case.

Measures / Safeguards instituted: The laid down procedure for dispatch of answer books of DSSC / TSOE Exam has been duly reviewed to prevent such incidents in future.