

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:285  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2014  
RECRUITMENT IN DEFENCE FORCES  
Chaudhary Shri Babulal;Hansdak Shri Vijay Kumar

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

- (a) the criteria for recruitment of defence personnel including technical / non- technical and medical officers along with the languages prescribed for written examination and interview;
- (b) whether the recruitment of defence personnel below Officers rank in the Defence Forces is done on the basis of recruitable male population of a particular State and if so, the details and the justification thereof;
- (c) whether the policy has adversely impacted availability of the competent personnel in the Defence Forces and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the said policy discriminates the candidates from other States who are more suitable for recruitment in the Defence Forces; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures taken / to be taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 285 FOR ANSWER ON 12.12.2014

(a) Recruitment in the Armed Forces, including technical / non-technical and medical officers, is based on merit and is equally open to every citizen of the country without any discrimination / reservation on the basis of caste, creed, tribe or religion etc., provided the candidate meets the laid down age, physical, medical and educational criteria.

Both English and Hindi languages are used in the applicable selection process for most of the entries into the Armed Forces. However, in the case of Air Force Common Admission Test (AFCAT), the written examination is in English but candidates can take the interview either in English or Hindi.

(b) In case of Army and Navy, recruitment of defence personnel below officers rank from different States is being done in proportion to the Recruitable Male Population (RMP) of those States. A RMP factor for each State is computed in the case of Army and a Naval Recruitment Index (NRI) is computed for each State in the case of Navy. In case of Air Force and Armed Forces Medical Services, recruitment is not based on RMP.

(c) Since the criteria for recruitment is merit and candidates have to meet laid down age, physical, medical and educational criteria, the policy has no adverse impact on the availability of competent personnel in the Defence Forces.

(d) & (e): As RMP policy give fair and equitable representation to all States, there is no discrimination among States.