GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2772
TO BE ANSWERED ON 28TH MARCH, 2022

WOMEN SERVING IN THE DEFENCE FORCES

2772. SMT. VANDANA CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will provide data on the number of women serving in the Armed Forces and, if so, the details thereof, service-wise and within it, stream-wise;

(b) whether Government will provide data on the number of women who have been granted Permanent Commission in all three Forces, if so, the details thereof, service-wise and stream-wise; and

(c) whether Government is reviewing plans to induct women in combat roles in the Armed Forces, if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE (SHRI AJAY BHATT)
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(a): The number of women personnel in the Armed Forces is as under:

Indian Army:

Arm/Service	Strength of Women Officers (excluding Medical/Dental / Nursing officers)
Army Air Defence	82
Corps of Engineers	212
Corps of Signals	243
Army Service Corps	272
Army Ordnance Corps	309
Electronics and Mechanical Engineers	274
Intelligence Corps	82
Army Aviation Corps	29
Army Education Corps	82
Judge Advocate General Branch	120

…….2/-

JCOs/OR: Provision for enrolment of women as Other Ranks in Corps of Military Police in the Indian Army has been introduced in 2019. Under this scheme, 1700 women personnel have been planned to be inducted in a phased manner (approximately 100 per year). The induction of women has commenced from the year 2020. A total of 300 vacancies for recruitment of Women Military Police have been released till date. Status of recruitment is as given below:

Recruiting Year	Vacancies Released	Intake	Remarks
2019-20	101	100	Completed training and inducted.
2020-21	99	-	Recruitment withheld due to COVID-19 restrictions.
2021-22	100	-	

Indian Air Force:

Branch	Stream	Strength of Women Officers (excluding Medical/Dental / Nursing officers)
Flying Pilot	F	15
Flying Pilot	H	53
Flying Pilot	T	53
Flying (Navigator)		21
Aeronautical Engineering (Mechanical)		60
Aeronautical Engineering (Electronics)		551
Administration		407
Logistics		150
Accounts		135
Education		95
Meteorological		100

Indian Navy:

Branch/Cadre/Specialisation	Strength of Women Officers (excluding Medical/Dental / Nursing officers)
Executive (Logistics)	134
Executive (Law)	08
Executive (Observers)	73
Executive (Pilot)	10
Executive (ATC)	80
Executive (NAI)	34
Executive (PR)	01
Executive (SP)	01
Education (General Service)	120
Education (Met)	26
Engineering (Naval Constructor)	72

……3/-

Armed Forces Medical Services: Number of women serving in Armed Forces Medical Services are as follows:

Service	Army Medical Corps (AMC)	Army Dental Corps (ADC)	Military Nursing Service (MNS)
Army	1240	177	4734
Navy	145	7	
Air Force	281	5	

(b): **Indian Army:** The details of women officers who have been granted permanent commission in Indian Army are as under :-

Arm/Service	Strength of Women Officers (excluding Medical/Dental / Nursing officers)
Army Air Defence	22
Corps of Engineers	89
Corps of Signals	75
Army Service Corps	118
Army Ordnance Corps	148
Electronics and Mechanical Engineers	97
Intelligence Corps	32
Army Aviation Corps	06
Army Education Corps	76
Judge Advocate General Branch	22

Indian Air Force: The details of women officers who have been granted permanent commission in Indian Air Force are as under :-

Branch	Strength of Women Officers (excluding Medical/Dental / Nursing officers)
Flying Pilot - F	00
Flying Pilot - T	04
Flying Pilot - H	09
Flying (Navigator)	02
Aeronautical Engineering (Mechanical)	06
Aeronautical Engineering (Electronics)	79
Administration	133
Logistics	54
Accounts	52
Education	26
Meteorological	16

Indian Navy: The details of women officers who have been granted permanent commission and presently serving in Indian Navy are as under :-

Branch/Cadre/Specialisation	Strength of Women Officers (excluding Medical/Dental officers)
Executive (Logistics)	16
Executive (Observers)	04
Education (General Service)	20
Education (Met)	06
Engineering (Naval Constructor)	03

Armed Forces Medical Services:

Arm/Service	Number of Women granted Permanent Commission
AMC	157
ADC	22
MNS	797

(c): The combat employment philosophy of women in the Armed Forces is a continuously evolving process and regularly reviewed by them. At present, the women are being commissioned in Indian Army into ten Arms & Services viz. Corps of Engineers, Corps of Signals, Army Air Defence, Army Service Corps, Army Ordnance Corps, Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers, Army Aviation Corps, Intelligence Corps, Judge Advocate General Branch and Army Education Corps in addition to the Armed Forces Medical Services.

The IAF has commissioned 15 women fighter pilots till date and the women officers are now being inducted in all combat roles.

Indian Navy has already deputed 28 women officers onboard ships. Women officers are also deployed in combat role onboard naval Aircraft/ship borne helicopters.

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