

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 382**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2023

**SHORTAGE OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL IN DEFENCE SERVICES**

382 SMT. JEBI MATHER HISHAM:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a shortage of doctors, nurses, and other medical staff in the Defence services at present;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, service-wise and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the details of the doctor-patient and nurse-patient ratio in each service;
- (d) the steps taken to fill the vacancies and maintain the medical force strength of the three services at the authorised level; and
- (e) whether it is intended to start new Armed Forces Medical Colleges in the country?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE  
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI AJAY BHATT)

(a) & (b): Vacancies of doctors, nurses and other medical staff arise on account of release, resignation, premature retirement and superannuation.

Details of doctors (Army Medical Corps and Army Dental Corps) and nurses (Military Nursing Services) sanctioned and vacant in Armed Forces Medical Services as on 01<sup>st</sup> June 2023 are at Annexure, Table-1.

The details of other medical staff (paramedics) sanctioned and vacant in Armed Forces Medical Services as on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 are at Annexure, Table-2.

(c): The details of doctor-patient and nurse-patient ratio are as under: -

- Doctor-Patient ratio 0.64 per 1000(i.e. 1 Doctor per 1563 patients)
- Nurse-Patient ratio 0.42 per 1000(i.e. 1 Nurse per 2381 patients)

Armed Forces Medical Services is a Tri-Service Organisation. This ratio is calculated on a comprehensive basis.

(d): Recruitment of doctors, nurses and other medical staff in the Armed Forces is carried out every year by factoring in the vacancies against authorised levels.

Recruitment of other medical staff was impacted during the years 2021 and 2022 on account of COVID. Efforts are being made to cover this in future recruitment.

(e): No, Sir.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 382 FOR ANSWER ON 24.07.2023 REGARDING "SHORTAGE OF MEDICAL PERSONNEL IN DEFENCE SERVICES".**

Table-1: Doctors and Nurses in Armed Forces Medical Services:

Corps Services		Army Medical Corps	Army Dental Corps	Military Nursing Service
Army	Authorised	6269	695	4396
	Held	5671	639	3868
	Vacancy	598	56	528
Navy	Authorised	746	57	456
	Held	726	46	370
	Vacancy	20	11	86
Air Force	Authorised	932	40	516
	Held	920	34	429
	Vacancy	12	06	87
Total	Authorised	7947	792	5368
	Held	7317	719	4667
	Vacancy	630	73	701

Table-2: Other Medical Staff (Paramedics) in Armed Forces Medical Services:

Services	Authorized	Held	Vacancy
Army	24643	23148	1495
Navy	3195	2803	392
Air Force	4496	4423	73

\*\*\*\*\*