

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1853
TO BE ANSWERED ON 17th March, 2025

RECRUITMENT OF WOMEN IN NDA

1853 SHRI NIRANJAN BISHI:

SMT. SULATA DEO:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of women recruited in the National Defence Academy (NDA) from different States and UTs during the last five years, State-wise;
- (b) whether the same facilities are provided to women recruits in NDA as to male recruits, and if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Army conducts training or awareness programs in colleges across the country to encourage women to join the NDA and if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (d) whether any such programs have been held in the State of Odisha particularly for the women from SC/ST background?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI SANJAY SETH)

(a): Selection to NDA is through a common National written examination conducted by UPSC followed by selection by Service Selection Board with no demarcation or quota for any State or UT. The first batch of female cadets joined NDA in August, 2022 (i.e. from 148th NDA course). 126 female cadets have joined NDA from 148th course till date i.e. 153rd course. State/UT wise details of selected female cadets of NDA is as under: -

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of Female Cadets Reported	Remarks
1.	Assam	01	
2.	Bihar	03	
3.	Chhattisgarh	01	
4.	Delhi	05	
5.	Gujarat	03	

6.	Haryana	35	01 Resigned
7.	Himachal Pradesh	04	01 Resigned
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	02	
9.	Karnataka	01	
10.	Kerala	04	01 Resigned
11.	Madhya Pradesh	06	
12.	Maharashtra	11	
13.	Punjab	05	01 Resigned
14.	Rajasthan	13	
15.	Uttar Pradesh	28	01 Resigned
16.	Uttarakhand	03	
17.	West Bengal	01	
Total		126	05

(b): Yes, adequate facilities, as appropriate, are being provided to women cadets at NDA at par with their male counterparts.

(c): A number of measures are undertaken pan-India, including publicity, outreach program in schools and colleges etc. to encourage women to join NDA/Indian Army.

(d): (i) Publicity drives are conducted among the target audience irrespective of their caste and creed.

(ii) In order to encourage women to join NDA / Indian Army, outreach campaigns on various schemes are held by all Zonal Recruiting Offices / Army Recruiting Offices, especially in rural areas (including Odisha) through personal interactions, print, digital and social media, motivational lectures are also organised in various schools / colleges / ITIs, other educational institutions and National Cadet Corps Camps.
