

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 3073**  
ANSWERED ON 27/03/2025

**WOMEN'S INTEREST AND PARTICIPATION IN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS**

3073. SHRI SHAKTISINH GOHIL

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:-

- (a) the manner in which Government plans to bolster women's interest and participation in peacekeeping operations;
- (b) the measures taken by Government as the "representative of the Global South" in undertaking capacity-building programs, specialised courses offered to females to enhance peacekeeping capabilities; and
- (c) the steps taken to ensure the safety and security of the Indian Female peacekeeping forces deployed overseas in International Peacekeeping operations?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a to c) India has been a pioneer in deploying women personnel to peacekeeping operations. India supports the UNSC Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security Agenda. Enhancing the role and participation of women in peace operations is a key priority for India.

India is the first country to deploy an all-women Formed Police Unit to a peacekeeping mission – United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) from 2007 to 2016. Since 2019, an all-women Female engagement Team (FET) comprising of women peacekeepers has been deployed in United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO); in UN Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA), Sudan in 2023; and as part of UNMISS, South Sudan in 2024. Currently, there are around 150 Indian women peacekeepers deployed in six ongoing UN Missions.

The Government of India has been conducting capacity building programmes for peacekeepers from the Global South at the Centre for UN Peacekeeping (CUNPK) in New Delhi. These courses are open for both men and women peacekeepers. In 2023, the ASEAN Female Military Officers Course and the ASEAN Female Military Officers Table Top Exercise were two courses conducted by the CUNPK for international women peacekeepers. Training of women peacekeepers as well as

enhancement of capacity building initiatives for women peacekeepers of the Global South will remain priorities.

A conference on women in peacekeeping titled “Women in Peacekeeping: A Global South Perspective” was held from 24 – 25 February 2025 in New Delhi. It was organized by the Ministry of External Affairs in collaboration with the Ministry of Defence and the CUNPK. The conference brought together women peacekeepers from 35 Troop Contributing Countries (*including India*) from the Global South.

The safety and security of peacekeepers, both men and women peacekeepers, is of critical importance and a top priority for India. Under India’s Presidency of the UN Security Council in August 2021, the UNSC Resolution 2589 on “Protecting the Protectors” was unanimously adopted.

It was under India’s Presidency of the UN Security Council in August 2021, a first of its kind Presidential Statement was adopted on “Technology and Peacekeeping”. India has partnered with the UN for the development of “UNITE AWARE” platform for enhancing situational awareness in peacekeeping missions, contributing to greater security as well as operational effectiveness.

India led the formation of the “Group of Friends to Promote Accountability for Crimes Against Peacekeepers” during its Presidency of the UNSC in December 2022.

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