

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-564
ANSWERED ON- 24/07/2025

INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO UN PEACEKEEPING

564 # SHRI MAYANKKUMAR NAYAK
SHRI MANAN KUMAR MISHRA
DR. ANIL SUKHDEORAO BONDE
SHRI KESRIDEVSINH JHALA
SMT. KIRAN CHOUDHRY

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

- (a) the role and contributions of Government in training peacekeepers for United Nations Peacekeeping forces;
- (b) the measures being taken to meet the UN's Gender Parity Strategy targets by 2028;
- (c) the steps being taken to promote the participation of Indian women in UN Peacekeeping missions;
- (d) the objectives and outcomes of the Conference on Women Peacekeepers from the Global South held in February 2025?

ANSWER

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

(a) India's Center for UN Peacekeeping (CUNPK) is a UN-certified training institute established in 2000 in New Delhi. It provides integrated training to military contingents, military observers, and staff officers nominated for being deployed to UN peacekeeping missions from India and from friendly foreign countries.

Since its establishment, CUNPK has imparted training and capacity building to nearly 10000 Indian peacekeepers and 2000 foreign peacekeepers from 96 countries. It regularly conducts pre-deployment training courses, peacekeeping contingent commander courses, military observers courses etc. CUNPK is also a repository of India's extensive experience in peacekeeping.

(b & c) The UN Gender Parity Strategy stipulates that by 2028, 15% of military personnel in Peacekeeping troop contingents and 25% of staff officers/observers need to be women. Currently, India has achieved 22% in the deployment of staff officers/observers.

India is a pioneer in deploying women peacekeepers to UN Missions. In the 1960s, women peacekeepers belonging to the Armed Forces Medical Services were deployed in the peace operations in Congo. In 2007, India became the first UN Member State to deploy an all-women Formed Police Unit (FPU) to Liberia. The FPU was deployed from 2007 – 2016. Their professionalism and conduct was commended by the host government and community.

Currently, 154 Indian women peacekeepers are deployed in 6 UN Peacekeeping Missions. .

CUNPK regularly conducts tailor-made courses and capsules for women peacekeepers to encourage greater participation of women in peacekeeping operations.

(d) India organized the Conference for Women Peacekeepers from the Global South, bringing together women peacekeepers from 35 countries of the Global South on 24 – 25 February 2025 in New Delhi.

The aim of the Conference was to enhance the role of women in UN peacekeeping by fostering dialogue, sharing experiences and improving collaboration among the countries from the Global South. The Conference broached upon issues of contemporary relevance to peacekeeping and the various challenges being faced by peacekeeping missions. Some of the themes discussed during the conference were on enhancing the role of women in peacekeeping, training and capacity building for peacekeepers, addressing sexual exploitation and abuse, regional cooperation in peacekeeping and how to enhance the use of technology in peacekeeping.

The Conference reinforced India as a leading stakeholder in UN peacekeeping. It reaffirmed India's role in promoting inclusive and effective peacekeeping operations, underscoring our commitment to gender equality and the vital role women play in global security and peace efforts. It further underscored India's commitment to work closely in UN peacekeeping with the Global South.
