

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE  
**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4043**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 9<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2016

**WOMEN IN DEFENCE FORCES**

4043. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA:  
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:  
SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE j{k k ea=h  
be pleased to state:

- (a) the total strength of defence personnel in all three wings of defence forces *vis-à-vis* the total number of female personnel employed therein;
- (b) whether there are any schemes and programmes specifically targeting to increase involvement of women in defence sector;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether more number of women have joined the defence sector during the last three years and if so, the details thereof, State / UT-wise; and
- (e) whether the Government proposes to induct women officers for combat duties in all three wings of defence forces and if so, the details thereof, force-wise?

**A N S W E R**

MINISTER OF STATE  
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)

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(डा. सुभाष भामरे)

**(a) to (e): A statement is attached.**

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4043 FOR ANSWER ON 9.12.2016**

(a) The total held strength of defence personnel vis-à-vis the total number of female officers (excluding medical and dental branch) in all the three wings of defence forces is as under:

Army			Navy			Air Force		
Total officers (as on 1.1. 2016)	PBOR (as on 1.1. 2016)	Women officers (as on 1.7. 2016)	Total officers (as on 6.12. 2016)	Sailors (as on 6.12. 2016)	Women officers (as on 6.12. 2016)	Total officers (as on 1.12. 2016)	Airmen (as on 1.11. 2016)	Women officers (as on 1.12. 2016)
41162	1159093	1512	9356	57031	453	11948	128898	1584

**(b) & (c):** The Government has been taking steps to make Short Service Commission (SSC) more attractive which in turn is also expected to encourage the intake of women officers in the Armed Forces. Further, few more branches / streams have been opened for induction of women as SSC officers.

(d) The details of women officers (excluding medical and dental branch) recruited during the last three years, Service-wise, are as under:

Year	Army	Navy	Air Force
2013	127	50	144
2014	104	57	155
2015	72	35	223

(e) On experimental basis, the Government has inducted three women Short Service Commissioned Officers (SSCOs) in Air Force into the fighter stream on 18.6.2016. This experimental entry scheme for women in fighter stream will be valid for 5 years from the date of issue of Government of India letter dated 2.12.2015. However, presently there is no proposal with the Government to induct women officers for combat duties in Army or for deployment of women onboard warships.

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