

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1551
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 27TH DECEMBER, 2017

SUICIDES BY ARMY PERSONNEL

1551. SHRIMATI DARSHANA VIKRAM JARDOSH:
SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE please be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government record / data from January 2014 to March 2017 shows that at least a defence personnel from the three wings of the Armed Forces has committed suicide every three days;
- (b) if so, the name of the armed wing which suffered most in this regard;
- (c) the details of officials / officers of Armed Forces who committed suicide during their duties during the last three years and the current year, force and year-wise and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the number of officials / officers who requested for early retirement during the above period; and
- (e) the steps taken / being taken to create healthy / appropriate environment for the officials / officers of Armed Forces?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)

रक्षा राज्य मंत्री

(डा. सुभाष भामरे)

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

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1551 FOR ANSWER ON 27.12.2017

(a) to (c): The details of number of incidents of suicide in the defence forces during last three years and the current year, force-wise & year-wise is as under:

Year	Army		Navy		Air Force	
	Officers	JCOs/ORs	Officers	Sailors	Officers	Airmen
2014	02	82	Nil	04	02	19
2015	01	77	Nil	03	Nil	14
2016	04	100	01	05	03	16
2017	02	67	01	04	Nil	18

Some of the reasons for committing suicide are family issues/ domestic problems, marital discord, perceived grievances and personal issues etc.

(d) The details of number of officers and Other Ranks who have applied for premature retirement during the last three years and the current year are as under:-

Year	Army		Navy		Air Force	
	Officers	JCOs/ORs	Officers	Sailors	Officers	Airmen
2014	165	12703	74	32	135	722
2015	108	9296	130	16	67	550
2016	291	12307	142	26	139	649
2017	239*	3844**	30**	15	144	136

* As on 1.10.2017

** upto March 2017

(e) Various steps have been taken by the Armed Forces to create healthy / appropriate environment for their Officers and Other Ranks. Some of these steps are as under:-

- Provision of better quality of facilities such as clothing, food, married accommodation, travel facilities, schooling, recreation etc. and periodic welfare meeting.

: 3 :

- **Conduct of yoga and meditation as a tool for stress management.**
- **Training & deployment of psychological counsellors.**
- **Institutionalization of projects 'MILAP' and 'SAHYOG' by Army in Northern & Eastern Command to reduce stress among troops.**
- **A 'Mansik Sahayata Helpline' have been established by Army & Air Force to take professional counselling.**
- **Mental Health Awareness is provided during pre-induction training.**
- **Formation of Military Psychiatry Treatment Centre at INHS Asvini and establishment of Mental Health Centres in Mumbai, Visakhapatnam, Kochi, Port Blair, Goa and Karwar.**
