

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.525
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH FEBRUARY, 2019

SEATS IN CDS

525. SHRI KESINENI NANI:

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

- (a) whether about 400 seats in Combined Defence Service (CDS) examination are declared for male candidates and only 10-12 for female candidates and a large number of female candidates after being recommended fit for the services end up not making into the merit due to meagre number of seats for them;
- (b) if so, whether the Government proposes to increase women participation in Armed Forces and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government is aware that a large number of male seats every year remain vacant through CDS entry; and
- (e) if so, whether Government is planning on transferring these vacant seats to female candidates and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(DR. SUBHASH BHAMRE)

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(a) to (c): Approximately 800 vacancies are released annually for Combined Defence Service Exam (CDSE). Out of these, about 30 vacancies are released for Short Service Commission (Women). The induction of women is based on the organizational requirement, fighting efficiency, combat effectiveness and functionality of the force.

It has been the endeavour of the government to increase the role of women in Armed Forces. Over the years, new branches / services / streams have been opened up for recruiting women as short service commission (SSC) officers. Recently, it has been decided to enrol 1700 women (below officer rank) in Corps of Military Police in a phased manner.

(d) & (e): Sometimes, seats remain vacant in Short Service Commission (Non Tech) entry because of tough selection procedures, difficult service conditions coupled with perceived high degree of risk involved in the service career.

The policy in vogue precludes transfer of vacant seats to female candidates.
