

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3958
TO BE ANSWERED ON 24th March, 2023

SHORTAGE OF MEDICAL STAFF IN ARMED FORCE

3958. SHRI BALUBHAU ALIAS SURESH NARAYAN DHANORKAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of doctor-patient and nurse-patient ratio in the Defence forces, service-wise;
- (b) whether there is a shortage of doctors, nurses and other medical staff in the armed forces at present;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, service-wise along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken to fill up these vacancies to maintain strength of medical force in the three services at the authorised level?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI AJAY BHATT)

(a): The details of doctor-patient and nurse-patient ratio are as under: -

Doctor-Patient ratio 0.64 per 1000

Nurse-Patient ratio 0.42 per 1000

Armed Forces Medical Services is a Tri-Service Organisation. The ratio is calculated on a comprehensive basis.

(b) & (c): Vacancies of doctors, nurses and other medical staff arise on account of release, resignation, premature retirement and superannuation.

Details of doctors (Army Medical Corps and Army Dental Corps) and nurses (Military Nursing Services) sanctioned and vacant in Armed Forces Medical Services as of February 2023 are at Annexure, Table-1.

The details of other medical staff (paramedics) sanctioned and vacant in Armed Forces Medical Services as of March, 2023 are at Annexure, Table-2.

(d): Recruitment of doctors, nurses and other medical staff in the Armed Forces is carried out every year by factoring in the vacancies against authorised levels.

Recruitment of other medical staff was impacted during the years 2021 and 2022 on account of COVID. Efforts are being made to cover this in future recruitment.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (b) & (c) OF LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3958 TO BE ANSWERED ON 24.03.2023
REGARDING “SHORTAGE OF MEDICAL STAFF IN ARMED FORCE”.**

Table 1: Doctors and Nurses in Armed Forces Medical Services: -

Corps Services		Army Medical Corps	Army Dental Corps	Military Nursing Service
Army	Authorised	6269	691	4396
	Held	5527	649	3865
	Vacancy	742	42	531
Navy	Authorised	736	57	446
	Held	700	44	380
	Vacancy	36	13	66
Air Force	Authorised	932	40	516
	Held	898	30	433
	Vacancy	34	10	83
Total	Authorised	7937	788	5358
	Held	7125	723	4678
	Vacancy	812	65	680

Table 2: Other Medical Staff (Paramedics) in Armed Forces Medical Services: -

Service	Authorized	Held	Vacancy
Army	24640	23375	1265
Navy	3195	2804	391
Air Force	4496	4383	113
