

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4484
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 12TH AUGUST, 2016

STRENGTH OF DEFENCE FORCES

4484. SHRI RADHESHYAM BISWAS:
SHRI RAVNEET SINGH:
DR. RAMESH POKHRIYAL ðNISHANKö:

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

- (a) whether the Government has adequate strength of officers and soldiers in all three wings of defence forces, force-wise Army, Navy and Air Force;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the total number of vacant posts of officers including the technical and non-technical posts in all the three wings of defence forces;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to increase the strength of officers and soldiers in all three wings; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF DEFENCE
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(SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)
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(a) to (e): A statement is attached.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4484 FOR ANSWER ON 12.8.2016**

(a) to (c): The details of authorised strength and held strength of officers and soldiers in all three Wings of Defence Forces are as under:-

Officers:

Army (as on 01.01.2016)			Navy (as on 31.05.2016)			Air Force (as on 01.08.2016)		
Authorised strength	Held strength	Shortage	Authorised strength	Held strength	Shortage	Authorised strength	Held strength	Shortage
49833	41162	8671	11384	9866	1518	12244	12215	29

Soldiers:

Army (as on 01.01.2016)			Navy (as on 31.05.2016)			Air Force (as on 01.08.2016)		
Authorised strength	Held strength	Shortage	Authorised strength	Held strength	Shortage	Authorised strength	Held strength	Shortage
1202257	1159093	43164*	67639	57999	9640	138596	128216	10380**

* Presently 87322 recruits are under training against this deficiency.

** Presently 8792 trainees are under training against this deficiency.

Some of the major reasons for shortage in Armed Forces include increase in authorized strength due to new accretions of posts from time to time, availability of other attractive career avenues, stringent selection criteria coupled with perceived high degree of risk.

(d) & (e): Government has taken a number of measures to reduce the shortages. These include sustained image projection, participation in career fairs and exhibitions and publicity campaign to create awareness among the youth on the advantages of taking up a challenging and satisfying career. Further, Government has taken various steps to make armed forces jobs attractive. These include implementation of recommendations of the Central Pay Commissions with improved pay structure, additional family accommodation through Married Accommodation Project (MAP) and improvement in promotion prospects in the Armed Forces.
