

accepted and implemented by the Government. Attrition of scientists has reduced in the last two years in DRDO.

Soldiers in Armed Forces

†2962. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the percentage increase of soldiers in the Army, Navy and Air Force during the last five years;
- (b) the annual expenditure incurred on each soldier in each of these sectors respectively; and
- (c) the shortage as against the requirement if any, in these sectors and the measures being taken to meet this shortage?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Exodus of fighter pilots from IAF

2963. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Indian Air Force is facing shortage of fighter pilots;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that increasingly the IAF pilots are resigning from the service despite improved service conditions and emoluments;
- (c) if so, the yearly details of number of such applications during the three years; and
- (d) the steps being taken to dissuade fighter pilots from resigning?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) Sir, the present strength of pilots in Air Force is sufficient to meet its current operational requirements.

(b) to (d) The number of IAF pilots applying for resignation of Commission has reduced over the years. The details of applications during the last three years is as follows:—

Year	Applied for resignation
2007	09
2008	04
2009 (upto December, 2009)	01

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The improvement in the job profile of the pilots is a continuous process keeping in view the job specific requirements and operational necessity. Besides, the Short Service Commission for Flying branch has been modified to also make Men eligible for induction in this branch. Further, the implementation of the recommendations of the VIth Central Pay Commission shall also go a long way in attracting youth.

Settlement of pensions of paramilitary forces

2964. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that release of enhanced pension in respect of personnel of Para-military forces is not being done with due diligence;
- (b) if so, the reasons for a slow approach to streamline such matters of pension;
- (c) the number of cases of re-settlement of pension dues as the award of the Sixth Central Pay Commission are still pending; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government for speedy settlement of these pension cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN):
(a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Representation of women in Defence forces

2965. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the representation of women in the three wings of Defence forces is very low;
- (b) if so, the present status; and
- (c) the measures taken to attract more women candidates for Indian Defence Forces?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Women are inducted as officers in the defence forces in specified branches. Women are not inducted as Personnel Below Officer Bank (PBOR). There is no specified sanctioned strength for women officers in Army, Navy and Air Force. Appointment of women officers has been progressively extended to different branches over a period of time. Permanent Commission has been granted prospectively to Short Service Commission Women officers in specified branches/cadres in Army, Navy and Air Force in September, 2008. Measures to improve the intake of officers, including women, in the defence forces are a continuous process.

Capacity of defence factories

2966. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state: