

II. Electrical and Mechanical Engineering Cadre:

Sl. No.	Category	Total sanctioned strength	GRF Officers	Army Officers
(i)	CE (E&M)/Brig (EME)	2	1	1
(ii)	Col. (EME)/SE (E&M)/ (Engrs.)/SE (Civil)	24	12	12
(iii)	Lt. Col. (EME)	4	—	4
(iv)	Major (EME)/EE (E&M) EE (Civil)	79	48	31
(v)	Capt. (EME)/AEE (E&M)	123	87	36
TOTAL :		232	189	84

(c) Border Roads Organisation (BRO) is placed under the administrative control of Ministry of Defence as executive arm of Border Roads Development Board (BRDB), though its budget forms a part of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. BRO is functioning effectively through the time tested system spanning over five decades.

(d) There is no proposal to change the present arrangement.

Request for compulsory retirement by defence personnel

†3137. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of defence personnel are requesting compulsory retirement before due date;

(b) the number of defence personnel who have requested for compulsory retirement during the last three years and the number granted retirement; and

(c) the reasons cited for availing compulsory retirement and whether Government considers these reasons valid?

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

ALH Dhruv laid to rest

3138. SHRI T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the much hyped Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) Dhruv touted as an indigenously-built show-piece has been laid to rest;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that 90 per cent of the material used in it was imported; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that the amount spent on the project has not benefited any one?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Around 69% of the material used in manufacture of Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH) is procured from foreign sources. In terms of number of components involved, around 90% of the components are made in India.

(d) The development and production of ALH has benefited the country immensely by providing a versatile domestic helicopter and enhancing our knowledge base in designing, developing and manufacturing a rotary wing aircraft of this category.

Separate Pay Commission for armed forces

3139. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has directed the Ministry to examine the constitution of separate Pay Commission for armed forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard; and

(d) what are the reasons for not implementing one-rank-one-pension to armed forces personnel?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, Government has taken a decision to set up a separate Pay Commission for Armed Forces in future.

(d) Due to various administrative, financial and legal implications, it has not been found feasible to consider the demand of One Rank One Pension (OROP) fully.

Release of defence share for Barmer Lift Drinking Water Supply Project

3140. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state: