

- (iii) The procedure for 'Buy and Make (Indian)' category has been simplified in order to make the category more attractive for Indian Defence Industry.
 - (iv) A clear definition of indigenous content has been provided which would not only bring more clarity on the indigenous content required for different categorization, but also enhance the indigenization in defence products in India.
 - (v) Indian private sector industry has also been allowed to received 'Maintenance Transfer of Technology (MTotT)' in 'Buy (Global)' cases.
 - (vi) FDI policy in defence sector has been reviewed and as per the new policy, composite foreign investment upto 49% has been allowed through FIPB route and beyond 49% with the approval of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS).
 - (vii) Defence products list for the purpose of industrial licensing has been revised and most of the components / parts / raw materials, have been taken out from the revised list from purview of industrial licensing.
 - (viii) Defence Exports Strategy has been formulated and is put in public domain. The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for issuing NOC for export of military stores has been simplified and processed for issuing NOC has been made online.
 - (ix) The list of 'Military Stores' for purpose of issuing of NOC for export has been defined and put in public domain.
- (c) The capital procurement of defence weapons / equipment is carried out as per the provisions of Defence Procurement Procedure – 2013 (DPP-2013). During 2014-15, contracts have been signed with Indian vendors for Capital Procurement of various defence equipment including Rockets, Guns, Aircraft and missiles.

Women officers in Medical and Nursing branches

1745. DR. T.N. SEEMA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of commissioned and non-commissioned women officers in various branches including Medical and Nursing branches, service-wise;
- (b) whether Government has received complaints of harassment and discrimination from women officers and also that several new recruits were reported to have declined job officers, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to encourage women to join the services and make necessary changes in recruitment plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR) : (a) Strength of women officers in the Armed Forces are as under:—

Army		Navy		Air Force	
AFMS and MNS **	Other Branches	AFMS and MNS **	Other Branches	AFMS and MNS **	Other Branches
4224 (As on 1.2.2015)	1436 (As on 1.1.2015)	406 (As on 1.2.2015)	413	543 (As on 1.2.2015)	1331 (As on 1.3.2015)

** AFMS: Armed Forces Medical Services

MNS: Military Nursing Service

(b) Number of complaints of harassment and discrimination received from women officers are as under:—

Army	Navy	Air Force
5 (since 2013)	Nil	17 (since 2011)

(c) Government has taken a number of measures to encourage the youth including women to join Armed Forces, including 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 implementations of the recommendation of the Sixth Central Pay Commission with improved pay structure, additional family accommodation through Married Accommodation Project (MAP) and improvement in promotion prospects in the Armed Forces.

Irregularities in tender process of combat aircrafts

†1746. SHRI PRABHAT JHA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had entered into agreement with a French Company for purchasing 126 combat aircrafts three years ago, which has been cancelled recently, if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.