

Accountants of India, Institute of Company Secretaries of India, Institute of Cost Accountants of India and Common Service Centres (CSC) set up under Department of Electronics and Information Technology (DeitY), both in urban and rural areas, with the objective of creating awareness amongst the investors facilitating informed investment decisions. Special emphasis is laid on the education about fraudulent schemes. These programmes are conducted in Hindi, English and other vernacular/local languages, depending upon the target audience.

(c) and (d) IAPs are specifically organized for rural areas through CSC of DeitY. During the last two years (2014-15 and 2015-16), 572 such programmes were organised in rural areas. CSCs have been conceptualized as Information Communication Technology enabled, front end service delivery points at the village level by DeitY for delivery of Government, Social and Private Sector Services, and therefore, their services have been utilized under IAPs to educate the population at village level/rural areas regarding, *inter-alia* functioning of primary and secondary capital markets in order to enhance investor awareness.

(e) The details of the amount allocated and utilized under Investor Awareness and Protection Fund (IEPF) during each of the last three years and the current year is as under:

Year	Funds allocated (₹)	Funds utilized (₹)
2013-14	4,50,00,000	4,38,10,000
2014-15	3,00,00,000	2,84,24,000
2015-16	4,50,00,000	4,29,93,000 (estimated)
2016-17	1,50,00,000	Nil

Meeting shortfalls of arms and equipments in the army

†189. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the shortage of arms, ammunition and other essential commodities in the Indian Army has not been met so far;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and by when this shortage would be fulfilled; and

(c) if not, the requirements of the Army fulfilled in the last one year?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) to (c) The acquisition of arms and ammunition for Indian Army is carried out as per Long Term Integrated Perspective Plan (LTIPP), Service Capital Acquisition Plan (SCAP) and Annual Acquisition Plan (AAP). The deficiencies exist in reserve stocks of some ammunitions, arms and essential items. The shortages have mainly occurred due to delay in fructification of some procurement cases, slippages in deliveries etc. However, the Government reviews the issue of shortages regularly and action is taken to build up stocks to authorised levels. This is a continuous process.

Steps to attract youth into the army

190. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the steps taken by Government to attract more youth into the Army and the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is planning to open more National Defence Academies, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) Government has undertaken sustained image projection campaign to create awareness among the youth on the advantages of taking up a challenging and satisfying career. Awareness campaigns, participation in career fairs and exhibitions, advertisements in print and electronic media, motivational lectures in schools, colleges are some of the measures in this direction.

(b) and (c) Presently, there is no proposal to open new National Defence Academies as no such requirement is envisaged. However, enhancement of the current strength of the existing National Defence Academy has been initiated.

Shortage of subordinate staff

191. SHRI RAJ KUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute shortage of subordinate staff in the Ministry, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) what action Government proposes to take to tackle the shortage of subordinate staff in the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) There is