

Women personnel of the armed forces

2903. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of women employed in the three wings of the defence forces, *i.e.* army, air force and navy;

(b) whether Government has noted an increase in the number of women joining the defence forces in the last four years and in the current year; and

(c) details of the schemes being introduced by Government to incentivise women and increase their participation and involvement in the defence forces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) The number of women officers (excluding medical and dental branch) in all the three wings of defence forces is as under:

Army (as on 1.1.2017)	Navy (as on 16.3.2017)	Air Force (as on 1.3.2017)
1528	469	1581

(b) The details of women officers (excluding medical and dental branch) recruited during the last four years and the current year, Service-wise, are as under:—

Year	Army	Navy	Air Force
2013	127	50	144
2014	104	57	155
2015	72	35	223
2016	69	43	108
2017 (till March)	35	01	14

(c) In 2011, the Government approved consideration of women Short Service Commission Officers (SSCOs) for grant of permanent commission along with men SSCOs in specific branches in the three services *viz.* Judge Advocate General (JAG), and Army Education Corps (AEC) of the Army and their corresponding branches in Navy and Air Force, Naval Constructor in Navy and Accounts Branch in Air Force.

In March, 2016, approval has been accorded for induction of women Short Service Commission (SSC) officers as Pilots in Maritime Reconnaissance (MR) stream and in the Naval Armament Inspectorate (NAI) cadre. The inductions are planned commencing from mid 2017.

The IAF has revised Short Service Commission (SSC) Scheme to induct women into the fighter stream on an experimental basis for a period of five years. The first batch of three women officers were commissioned into the fighter stream on June 18, 2016.

Navy facing staff shortage

2904. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Navy is facing huge shortage of personnel, officers and men;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that despite shortage of personnel, officers and men, the efficiency of Navy has not been affected;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that there was high attrition among naval officers in the wake of the allegation that the service had got a raw deal in the Seventh Pay Commission; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) There is some shortage of officers, sailors and civilian personnel in the Indian Navy. This shortage has not affected the efficiency of Navy as the required manpower is provided to operational units by re-appropriation as and when found necessary.

- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Illegal transfer of defence land

2905. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has come across any cases of illegal transfer of Government land in cantonment areas across the country during last three years, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) what important measures are being taken to prevent incidence of such cases in the future; and
- (c) whether Government has undertaken any investigations in the irregularities or corruption cases during this period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) Yes, Sir. Complaints alleging illegal transfer of defence land in Cantonment areas are received from time to time, which are forwarded to