

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