

Various steps have been taken by the Armed Forces to create healthy/appropriate environment for their Officers and Other Ranks and to improve their morale. Some of these steps are as under:-

- Provision of better quality of facilities such as clothing, food, married accommodation, travel facilities, schooling, recreation etc. and periodic welfare meeting.
- Conduct of yoga and meditation as a tool for stress management.
- Training and deployment of psychological counsellors.
- Institutionalization of projects 'MILAP' and 'SAHYOG' by Army in Northern and Eastern Command to reduce stress among troops.
- A 'Mansik Sahayata Helpline' have been established by Army and Air Force to take professional counselling.
- Mental Health Awareness is provided during pre-induction training.
- Formation of Military Psychiatry Treatment Centre at ENHS Asvini and establishment of Mental Health Centres-in Mumbai, Visakhapatnam, Kochi, Port Blair, Goa and Karwar.

(d) The details of strength of Officers in the three Armed Forces (excluding medical and dental), force-wise are as under:-

Service	Authorised Strength	Held Strength	Shortage
Army (As on 1.1.2018)	49933	42635	7298
Navy (As on 1.7.2018)	11352	9746	1606
Air Force (As on 1.7.2018)	12584	12392	192

Infiltration across LoC and IB in J&K border

2088. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH MANHAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to deal with the uncertain infiltration across the Line of Control (LoC) and International Border (IB) in Jammu and Kashmir border; and

(b) number of ceasefire violations by Pakistan on both the borders of Jammu and Kashmir?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) Indian Army and Border Security Force have adopted a robust counter infiltration strategy which has an appropriate mix of technology and human resource to check infiltration effectively. Innovative troop deployment, proactive use of surveillance and monitoring devices and the Anti-Infiltration Obstacle System have enhanced the ability to detect and intercept terrorists attempting to infiltrate/exfiltrate. Issues of infiltration/suspicious activity close to border are taken up regularly with Pakistan authorities at appropriate level through the established mechanism of hotlines, flag meetings as well as talks between the Director General of Military Operations of the two countries. BSF, too, holds regular talks at various levels with its counterpart *viz.* Pakistan Rangers.

(b) The details of ceasefire violations along the Line of Control (LoC) and International Border (IB) during last two months of the current year are as under:-

Month	Number of CFVs on Line of Control (LoC)	Number of cross border firing on International Border (IB)
June, 2018	19	39
July, 2018	13	00

Air training operations at Visakhapatnam

2089. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry is of opinion that training operations for air crew is safe at Visakhapatnam, which has an oil refinery and oil tank in its vicinity;

(b) whether the Navy can consider to use the air strip at Badangi in Vizianagaram and would consider constructing another airstrip at Rambilli and Navy is also constructing Naval Alternative Operating Base for its training requirements;

(c) whether Ministry is also aware that due to Indian Navy's objections, international flights announced by Spicejet to Bangkok have been suspended and Sri Lankan Airlines also communicated suspending its services; and

(d) if so, what does the Ministry plan to do in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (DR. SUBHASH RAMRAO BHAMRE): (a) and (b) No basic flying training is being conducted at