

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2903
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22nd March, 2021

SHORTAGE OF MANPOWER IN THE ARMED FORCES

2903 DR. FAUZIA KHAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a shortage of manpower in the Armed Forces at present;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor, service-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken to fill up the vacancies and maintain combat force strength of the three services at the authorised level, to motivate the service personnel to continue in service and to encourage youngsters to join the Armed Forces?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK

(a) to (c): The vacancies in the Armed Forces are as a result of retirements, pre-mature retirements, attrition due to casualties and injuries. However, there is no acute shortage of manpower as recruitment in the Armed Forces is a continuous process. The details of vacancies in the three Armed Forces are as follows:

Officers:

	Sanctioned Strength	Borne Strength	Deficiency
Indian Army (excluding MNS branch)	56542	49567	6975
Indian Air Force (excluding Medical & Dental branch)	12669	12080	589
Indian Navy	12297	11253	1044

...2/-

: 2 :

JCOs/ORs/Airmen/Sailors:

	Sanctioned Strength	Borne Strength	Deficiency
Indian Army (excluding MNS branch)	1229559	1150210	79349
Indian Air Force	143035	135804	7231
Indian Navy	74479	62162	12317

The Government has taken a number of measures to reduce the shortages. These, inter-alia, include 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, the Government has taken various steps to make the job in the Armed Forces attractive including improvement in promotion prospects in the Armed Forces and to fill up vacancies.
