

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5981
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2000
ARMY REGIMENTS
RASA SINGH RAWAT

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of different regiments in Indian Army as on date;
- (b) whether only the people of a particular caste and class are recruited in a particular regiment;
- (c) whether the Government propose to give equal recruitment opportunities to the people of all the communities;
- (d) if so, the reason for not recruiting the people of other communities in a regiment named under a particular community;
- (e) whether the Government have received any complaints in this regard;
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken by the Government to remove this imbalance; (g) whether the Government have also received any proposals to raise some new regiments; (h) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; (i) whether in the past, there had been a regiment named as 'Azmer Regiment'; and (j) if so, the reasons for disbanding the same?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE

(SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

- (a) A list of names of 29 regiments of the Indian Army is enclosed.
- (b) No, Sir. The regimental vacancies are filled up based on the class composition of the regiment which need not be confined to a particular caste or community. Besides, the class composition of the regiment does not include officers, clerks, cooks, washermen, barbers, safaiwalas and other tradesmen who are recruited on all-India all class vacancies.
- (c) & (d): Recruitment to the Army is open to all Indian nationals irrespective of class, caste, creed, religion or region subject to educational qualification and physical fitness. Recruitment to regiments is restricted based on operational and logistical factors and because the regiments embody certain military traditions which are being continued.
- (e) No, Sir.
- (f) Does not arise.
- (g) & (h): Yes, Sir. Requests have been received from time to time to raise new regiments on the basis of a particular class, creed, community, religion or region. However, the policy of the Government since independence has been not to raise or name any new regiment on the above basis.
- (i) Yes, Sir.
- (j) Based on the policy decision taken by the Government then, about 8000 Army units including Ajmer Regiment were disbanded after World War II.

ENCLOSURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5981 FOR 4.5.2000.

Names of Regiments

(a) GUARDS

(b) PARACHUTE

- (c) MECHANISED INFANTRY
- (d) PUNJAB
- (e) MADRAS
- (f) GRENADIERS
- (g) MARATHA LIGHT INFANTRY
- (h) RAJPUTANA RIFLES
- (j) RAJPUT
- (k) JAT
- (l) SIKH
- (m) SIKH LIGHT INFANTRY
- (n) DOGRA
- (o) GARHWAL RIFLES
- (p) KUMAON
- (q) ASSAM
- (r) BIHAR
- (s) MAHAR
- (t) JAMMU AND KASHMIR RIFLES
- (u) JAMMU AND KASHMIR LIGHT INFANTRY
- (v) LADAKH SCOUTS
- (w) NAGA
- (x) 1st GORKHA RIFLES
- (y) 3rd GORKHA RIFLES
- (z) 4th GORKHA RIFLES
- (aa) 5th GORKHA RIFLES
- (ab) 8th GORKHA RIFLES
- (ac) 9th GORKHA RIFLES
- (ad) 11th GORKHA RIFLES