

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5047
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2005
SPECIAL RECRUITMENT DRIVES
Chandel Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the recruitment in defence services from the States like Himachal Pradesh is proportionately declining since new criteria for recruitment in Indian defence services has been adopted;
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government has received any requests from the Government of Himachal Pradesh and also MPs from the State for relaxation in new criteria and to organise special recruitment rallies in the State;
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and
- (d) the number of special recruitment rallies organised in Himachal Pradesh during the last three years alongwith the number of persons recruited in those rallies?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) No, Sir.

(b) & (c): Requests from Members of Parliament have been received for relaxation in physical and educational standards. This aspect is reviewed periodically by High Power Study Groups, keeping in view the overall geo-social environment and the genetic pool of all regions across the country. This is done to improve the physical profile of the troops in the Armed Forces. In the Army the height requirement has been increased from 163 centimeter to 166 centimeter from August 2004, applicable to the entire Western Himalayan Region.

(d) In the Air Force, two special recruitment rallies were held in the year 2002 at Shimla and Hamirpur and one in 2003 at Chowari. In the Army, the response and intake was satisfactory viz-a-viz the vacancies allotted. In the Navy 'All India Merit' based intake was also adequate.