

## रक्षा मंत्री भारत MINISTER OF DEFENCE INDIA

DO No. 1241/2011/D(GS-I)/156-F/RM/2012

11th January, 2012

Dear Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar,

This has reference to the matter raised as Special Mention in the Rajya Sabha regarding 'Demand to take action to strengthen capabilities of Indian Army' on 19.12.2011.

In this connection, it is informed that a well structured and institutionalized planning process in the form of Long Term Perspective Plan (LTPP), covering a period of 15 years, is in vogue for capability development and modernization of the Indian Army. The LTPP takes into account the future threat perceptions and the capabilities needed to meet the same. The Army has a balanced mix of weapon systems incorporating current and modern technologies; however, modernization being a dynamic process, the state of technology is continuously upgraded in consonance with envisaged operational challenges. Moreover, necessary steps as required have also been initiated for addressing the national security concerns by increasing the operational capabilities of our Forces as well as supporting infrastructure.

There is a shortage of Army officers in position when compared to the authorized strength of Indian Army. However, a number of steps like 'Image Projection Campaigns', Establishment of Recruiting Directorate's Website', 'Service Selection Board' etc. have been taken to promote awareness amongst youth about 'Army as a Career'.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(A.K. Antony)

Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar Member of Parliament 211, North Avenue New Delhi – 110001