

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3138
TO BE ANSWERED ON 09th August, 2024

ENCROACHMENT ON DEFENCE LAND

3138 SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the defence land under encroachment in the country, location-wise and State/UT-wise including West Bengal;
- (b) the reasons for not removing encroachments from defence land;
- (c) whether these encroachments are made with the connivance of the authorities of the concerned State;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to remove these irregularities and illegalities?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI SANJAY SETH)

- (a): Out of around 18 lakh acres of defence land across the country, about 10354 acres is under encroachment. The State-wise details of encroachment on defence land including the State of West Bengal is enclosed as Annexure.
- (b): Detection, prevention and removal of encroachment is a continuous exercise. Action for removal of encroachment on defence land is taken under the provision of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 as well as under the Cantonment Acts, 2006.
- (c) & (d): No, Sir. No connivance of the State Government authorities has been reported in encroachment of defence land. However, certain defence land are under occupation of some State Government Agencies for offices or public utilities.
- (e): Following steps are taken by the Government to protect defence land from encroachment:-
 - (i) Regular inspection of Defence Lands is carried out by the concerned offices and they are required to submit annual certificates as per rules.

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- (ii) As and when encroachments are detected, they are removed by carrying out anti-encroachment drives after following due process of law in close coordination with police authorities and district administration.
- (iii) Defence land records have been digitized.
- (iv) A Land Management System has been put in place wherein GIS layers of encroachments have been developed which provide information on encroachment over a period and helps in preventing fresh encroachments.
- (v) Defence Land Audit has been institutionalized from 2011-12 as a continuing process.
- (vi) A methodology for evaluating “Threat” of encroachment on defence land has been devised. Based on threat value, steps to be taken by the concerned officers have been communicated to the field offices.
- (vii) An encroachment module has been enabled in February 2020 on DGDE website for reporting encroachments on defence land by the general public.
- (viii) Government has allocated funds for construction of boundary wall / fences / pillars around the certain vulnerable defence land pockets.

**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3138 TO BE ANSWERED ON 09.08.2024
REGARDING “ENCROACHMENT ON DEFENCE LAND”.**

Sl. No.	State / UT	Area (in acre)
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	24.07
2	Andhra Pradesh	49.0215
3	Arunanchal	77.985
4	Assam	462.3127
5	Bihar	529.548
6	Chhattisgarh	75.9
7	Delhi	147.5745
8	Goa	5.1166
9	Gujarat	212.8499
10	Haryana	780.0094
11	Himachal Pradesh	59.5369
12	Jharkhand	302.522
13	Karnataka	168.4736
14	Kerala	1.717
15	Lakshadweep	0.08
16	Madhya Pradesh	1757.979
17	Maharashtra	1031.02
18	Manipur	5.6478
19	Meghalaya	13.3402
20	Mizoram	0.003
21	Nagaland	356.1
22	Odisha	50.935
23	Punjab	451.0075
24	Rajasthan	478.1285
25	Sikkim	64.844
26	Tamil Nadu	153.321
27	Telangana	97.1986
28	Uttar Pradesh	1778.915822
29	Uttarakhand	61.3916
30	UT of J&K	311.8692
31	UT of Ladakh	29.581
32	West Bengal	816.0484
	Total	10354.04772
