

**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEFENCE LANDS AND LAND
USE POLICY**

**ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
1993-94**

TENTH LOK SABHA



NL/35

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

THIRTY-FIFTH REPORT ESTIMATES COMMITTEE (1993-94)

(TENTH LOK SABHA)

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE DEFENCE LANDS AND LAND USE POLICY

*[Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the
Ninth Report of Estimates Committee]*



Presented to Lok Sabha on 21 December, 1993

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

November, 1993/Kartika, 1915 (Saka)

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CONTENTS

	PAGE
COMPOSITION OF THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE	(iii)
INTRODUCTION	(v)
CHAPTER I REPORT	1
CHAPTER II Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by Government	10
CHAPTER III Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies	21
CHAPTER IV Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee	34
CHAPTER V Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of Government are awaited	37
APPENDIX Analysis of Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Report of Estimates Committee (10th Lok Sabha)	38
PART II	
Minutes of 7th Sitting of Estimates Commit- tee held on 23rd September, 1993	39
ANNEXURE Amendments/Modifications made by the Estimates Committee in the draft Action Taken Report on Defence Lands and Land Use Policy at their sitting held on 23.09.1993	40

COMPOSITION OF THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE

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| 5. Shri S. B. Arora | — | <i>Committee Officer</i> |

INTRODUCTION

1. the Chairman of the Estimates Committee, having been authorised by the Committee to submit the Report on their behalf, present this 35th Report on action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 9th Report of the Estimates Committee (10th Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Defence—Defence Lands and Land Use Policy.

2. The 9th Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 13th March, 1992. Government furnished all the action taken replies indicating action taken on the recommendations contained in that Report by 13.04.1993. The Draft Report was considered and adopted by the Estimates Committee (1993-94) at their sitting held on 23.09.1993.

3. The Report has been divided into the following chapters:—

- (i) Report;
- (ii) Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by Government;
- (iii) Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies;
- (iv) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of Government have not been accepted by the Committee and which require reiteration; and
- (v) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies of Government are awaited.

4. An analysis of action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the 9th Report of the Estimates Committee (10th Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix. It would be observed therefrom that out of 47 recommendations made in the Report, 24 recommendations *i.e.* 51.07% have been accepted by the Government and the Committee do not desire to pursue 18 recommendations *i.e.* 38.30% in view of Government's replies. Replies have not been accepted in respect of remaining 5 recommendations *i.e.* 10.63%.

NEW DELHI;
November 11, 1993

Kartika 20, 1915 (S)

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI,
Chairman,
Estimates Committee.

CHAPTER I

REPORT

This Report of the Committee deals with the action taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Ninth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) on the Ministry of Defence—Defence Lands and Land Use Policy.

2. The Committee's Ninth Report (Tenth Lok Sabha) was presented to Lok Sabha on 13th March, 1992. It contained 47 recommendations. Action Taken Notes on all these recommendations have been received from the Ministries of Defence, Urban Development and Rural Development.

3. Replies to the recommendations and observations contained in the Report have broadly been categorised as under:—

- (i) Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government
Sl. Nos. 2, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 15 (4)
15 (6), 15 (7), 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 26, 27,
28, 29, 30, 31, 34 and 37

Total 24, Chapter-II)

- (ii) Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies
Sl. Nos. 1, 3, 4, 14, 15 (1), 15 (5), 15 (8), 20, 23, 24, 25,
32, 33, 35, 36, 38 39 and 40

(Total 18, Chapter-III)

- (iii) Recommendations in respect of which Govt.'s replies have not been accepted by the Committee and which required reiteration
Sl. Nos. 6, 7, 15 (2), 15 (3), 22

(Total 5, Chapter-IV)

- (iv) Recommendations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited

-NIL-

(Chapter-V)

4. The Committee will now deal with action taken by Government on some of the recommendations.

Notification of ranges

Sl. No. 4 (Para No. 1.46)

1.1 Keeping in view the difficulties being faced by the Ministry of Defence in the renewal of notification of existing ranges or in getting new ranges notified, the Committee had recommend as follows:—

“From a long term perspective the Ministry must acquire as many permanent ranges as it can afford and the circumstances permit.

The Committee desire that a long term programme of land acquisition may be drawn and implemented for this purpose. However, at the same time the Committee quite clearly see the usefulness of carrying out the suggested amplifications in the Manoeuvres, Field Firing and Artillery Practice Act, 1938. The Committee are of the firm view that these amendments will not only ease the problem of the Army in the immediate context but will also provide necessary leeway for rationalisation of the ranges at a future date if so warranted by the requirements of the training."

1.2 The Ministry of Defence in their reply have stated as follows:—

"This recommendation is acceptable, in principle. However, the Army has not been able to acquire field firing ranges on account of huge costs of acquisition and non availability of alternative sites for ranges in cases of forest areas. The Army has acquired 6 category. I Ranges and one category II Range. Besides these ranges, the Army has 5 small acquired/partly acquired ranges. It has been felt that a mix of acquired and notified ranges would meet the requirements of the Army.

1.3 The Committee find that the reply is silent about the amplification of the Manoeuvres, Field Firing and Artillery Practice Act, 1938. The Committee feel that in view of the difficulties/problems faced in the renewal of notification as well as non-availability of land for requisition, the Ministry of Defence should examine the desirability of amplifying the Act, keeping in view the long term needs and requirements.

National Test Range

Sl. Nos. 6 & 7 (Para 1.48 & 1.49)

1.4 The Committee had desired that the position regarding acquisition of land for setting up National Test Range which has been dragging on for the last many years may be reviewed at an appropriately high level to resolve the problem through mutual discussion amongst all parties concerned. Since the National Test Range is going to be used by various other Agencies, the Committee had also desired that the cost of its acquisition and maintenance should be shared by users on a proportionate basis or through some practicable formula.

1.5 In their reply, the Ministry have furnished the following information:

"In 1982 Government had cleared a proposal for setting up the instrumental Test Range as a 'National Facility' for testing/evaluation of performance of rockets and missiles and also for launching of satellites in polar orbit by Department of Space, for civil purposes. The Expert Committee constituted by Ministry of Defence identified Baliapal, in Orissa, as the ideal site location for the launch facility. In September 1985, a 'Go Ahead' sanction of Rs. 25 crores was issued for the acquisition of 107.8 sq km of land to meet the following requirements:-

Facility	Area in Sq. Km.
(a) Range Head	68.0
(b) Safety Zone	37.0
(c) Down Range tracking facilities	2.8
	107.8 Sq. Kms

However, the local population has been agitating against the land acquisition. As such, in spite of efforts at the highest levels in the Central and the State Governments, there has not been any progress of the land acquisition proceedings. On 8.6.1990, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Orissa intimated that the State Government have no intention to pursue this matter further. However, on 28.5.92, when he visited Balasore to witness the launch of Agni II, the Hon'ble CM agreed to re-examine the issue. Since the land for the testing/evaluation facility has yet to be acquired, the question of sharing of expenditure on acquisition of land and maintenance of the facility thereon does not arise at this juncture."

1.6 The Committee find from the reply that there is no perceptible progress in regard to the acquisition of land at Baliapal (Orissa) ever since the proposal for setting up the Instrumental Test Range as a National Facility was cleared by the Government in 1982. Keeping in view the national interest, the Instrumental Test Range is a vital requirement not only for defence purposes but also for testing and launching of rockets, missiles and satellites into space in order to keep pace with the modern scientific advancement.

1.7 Since the site for National Test Range at Baliapal has been selected after taking into account various technical aspects, it was expected of the

Ministry of Defence to have made an all out effort to acquire the identified land at an early date. The Committee desire that the Ministry of Defence should vigorously explore the question of availability of land for the aforesaid purpose. The principles and modalities of sharing the expenditure of establishing and utilising the multi-purpose facilities at National Test Range should be worked out in advance.

Disposal of surplus land

Sl. No. 11 (Para No. 2.39)

1.8 In regard to the disposal of surplus land the following suggestion was made by the Committee:

“While the Committee would like the Ministry to expedite the final assessment of the three Services in regard to lands which are surplus such as abandoned air fields and camping grounds they would like this exercise to be carried out with some degree of finality. All efforts may be made to transfer such lands to the State Governments concerned and other Department/Public Sector Undertakings of the Central Government. At the same time the Committee desire that the option of disposing of such lands on a commercial basis needs to be considered seriously and promptly. They would also suggest that some of these lands may be offered to civilian population living in the adjoining areas and having already encroached upon or having access to these lands through the respective State Governments. In case State Governments do not come forward to take over these lands under a time bound programme and on terms reasonably advantageous to the Ministry of Defence, the Committee are of the view that the Ministry of Defence should feel free to either use them for self-financing housing projects for the benefit of retiring Defence personnel through the Army Welfare Housing organisations or use it for other commercial purposes with the assistance of agencies like L.I.C. and Housing Urban Development Corporation. The Committee also feel that such lands can also be advantageously utilised for rehabilitation of persons displaced from lands which have been acquired by the Ministry in some other locations in consultation with State Government.”

1.9 In their Action Taken Note, the Ministry of Defence have stated as under:

“An inhouse ‘Study for optimisation of Defence Lands’ including camping grounds, abandoned airfields, disused ranges and usika-lated pockets of lands has been made. The Study Report is expected to be finalised shortly. With the completion of this exercise an assessment in regard to the surplus lands will be completed. As per policy, surplus Camping Grounds are to be first offered to the respective State Governments in which they are located, on realisation of market value. Accordingly, 190 camping grounds have been

offered to the various State Governments. In case the State Government do not evince interest, the camping grounds in question will be sold at market price to interested Ministries/Departments, in the Central Government (other than Ministries of Defence)/Central Government PSUs/PSUs in State Governments/local bodies/charitable/educational institutions in this order of priority. There has been considerable delay in securing responses from the State Governments. The Ministry are taking steps to expedite the process."

1.10 The Committee welcome the formation of an inhouse "Study for Optimisation of Defence Lands" to assess the surplus lands which is expected to finalise its report shortly. They would like to be apprised of the recommendations made in the Study Report and the action taken by the Ministry of Defence thereon.

1.11 The Committee expect that reasonable time would be given while offering the surplus lands to State Governments. In case no response is received within the stipulated time, the Ministry should feel free to offer the surplus lands to others in order of priority.

Payment of Service Charges to Cantonment Boards

Sl. No. 15 [Para No. 2.48(2&3)]

1.12 In order to improve the standard of civic amenities in Cantonment Boards, the Committee had recommended as under:

"The payment of service charge which is 33-1/3% of the property tax leviable in respect of its properties owned by Ministry of Defence within the Cantonments should be brought at par with rates at which municipal bodies are entitled to receive service charges in respect of Govt. of India properties. Further, the payment of entitled gross amount service charges to Cantonment Boards should be made mandatory..... The Ministry of Defence must enhance the grants-in-aid to the Cantonments."

1.13 In their Action Taken Reply, the Ministry of Defence have stated as follows:

"From 1982, Ministry of Defence have agreed to pay service charges to the Cantonment Boards at the rate of 33-1/3% of the property tax that could be levied on Government properties falling within municipal limits. The arrears of service charges payable to Cantonment Boards upto 1991-92 work out to about Rs. 70.39 crores. However, due to financial constraints, only a part of this amount could be provided in the annual MES Budget and paid to the Boards. During 1991-92, a sum of Rs. 22.89 cores (including share of municipalities) was provided in the MES Budget, but due to severe resource crunch only Rs. 10.58 crores could be paid to the Cantonment Boards. During the current financial year Rs. 20.00 crores was provided in the sanctioned MES Budget (including share of municipalities) of which Rs. 4.87 crores could be paid to the Cantonment Boards, so far.

Since November, 1992, due to budgetary constraints, further payment of rates and taxes to Cantonment Boards in the current financial year have been kept pending. Hence, due to continuing financial constraints, it is not practicable to make payment of service charges to Cantonment Boards mandatory and to enhance the rates of service charges."

1.14 In regard to enhancement of grants-in-aid, the Ministry have stated:

"The Central Government provides financial assistance to Cantonment Boards wherever necessary in the shape of grants-in-aid to balance their budgets. The sources of income of Cantonment Boards are limited as the bulk of the property is Government owned on which no tax is levied. Since Cantonment Boards do not have adequate resources to provide for civic amenities, grants-in-aid is given to Cantonment Boards for meeting their day-to-day expenditure subject to the availability of funds in the defence budget. The details of grants-in-aid provided to the Cantonment Boards during the last three years are given below:—

Sl. No.	Year	Grants-in-aid		Total
		Ordinary	Special	(Rs. in crores)
		(Rs. in crores)		
1.	1989-90	8.88	0.22	9.10
2.	1990-91	8.41	2.59	11.00
3.	1991-92	9.36	0.64	10.00

"Even during the current financial year, grants-in-aid amounting to Rs. 9.00 crores could only be provided to Cantonment Boards as against a projected requirement of Rs. 20 crores (approx.). Due to budgetary constraints, it has not been possible to enhance the amount of grants-in-aid. The prospects for increasing the grants-in-aid to the Cantonment Boards are remote in near future."

1.15 The Committee are constrained to note that the Ministry of Defence have not found it practicable to (i) enhance the rate of service charges for its properties in Cantonments equal to the rates at which municipal bodies are entitled to receive in respect of Government properties; (ii) increase the grants-in-aid; and (iii) make the payment of service charges to Cantonment Boards mandatory. What is still more intriguing is to note that whatever little is allocated in MES Budget, has not been provided. The Committee are not convinced with the argument put forth by the Ministry that due to financial constraints full budgeted amount could not be provided to Cantonment Boards.

1.16 Keeping in view the pathetic condition of civic amenities in Cantonments, the Committee feel that unless the payment of service charges at enhanced rates is made mandatory alongwith increased

grants-in-aid, the condition is not likely to improve. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their recommendation and urge the Ministry of Defence to enhance the rate of service charges/grants-in-aid and make them mandatory.

Land Acquisition

Sl. No. 18 & 19 (Para Nos. 3.24 & 4.40)

1.17 Since the variations between the budget estimates/revised estimates and the actual expenditure incurred by DGDE have been a persistent feature, the Committee had desired that the requirement of funds for land acquisition should be examined properly so that precise estimates were made to obviate such variations. They had recommended that the Ministry of Defence should work out appropriate modalities for maintaining active liaison with the State Governments in order to ensure smooth and speedy acquisition of land for defence purpose.

1.18 The Ministry of Defence in their Action Taken reply have furnished the following information:—

“Detailed instructions have been issued vide our letter no. 11011/1/92/D(Lands) dated 4.2.1992 regarding processing and finalisation of land acquisition cases. The instructions exhaustively cover cost estimates payment of compensation and monitoring and review of the land acquisition cases. Compliance of the instructions is expected to minimise variation between the budget estimates and actual expenditure.”

1.19 The above letter has also laid down modalities to ensure speedy land acquisition and prompt payment of compensation for the land acquired. The field agencies have been directed to liaise with the State Governments to expedite action on their part, under Sections 6, 9, 11 and 17 of the Land Acquisition Act as applicable, with a view to expediting the final declaration of awards.

1.20 The Ministry should not content itself with the issue of letter of instructions laying down modalities for acquisition of land and payment of compensation. The Committee desire the Ministry to ensure speedy acquisition and prompt payment of compensation leaving little scope for cost escalation thereby minimising the chances for variations between the budget estimates and the actual expenditure. They also desire the Ministry to review the progress reports submitted to it by Service Headquarters/Departments/Organisations/DGDE as per its instructions and take corrective measures wherever necessary.

Time Limit for Acquisition Proceedings

Sl. No. 22 (Para No. 4.43)

1.21 In regard to the limit for completion of acquisition proceedings, the Committee had desired the Ministry of Rural Development to ensure compliance with the over-all time limit prescribed under the Land Acquisition Act, 1984. The Ministry were also desired to closely liaise with the State Government, particularly those which have yet to specify time limits for completion of various processes of land acquisition work as per the consensus arrived at in the Land Acquisition Conference held in July, 1989. The Committee desired to be apprised of the outcome of the efforts made by the Ministry in this regard.

1.22 In their Action Taken note, the Ministry have stated that "letters to those States from whom the reply has not been received so far or they have not specified the time limit for completion of acquisition work have been addressed."

1.23 The Committee are not satisfied with the reply and the manner in which the recommendation of the Committee has been dealt with. Merely issuing a letter is not an end in itself. The Ministry were expected to keep a close liaison with State Governments in order to obtain their views on the question of prescribing time limit for completion of land acquisition process. In the circumstances, the Committee have every reason to believe that the matter has not been given the requisite attention that it deserved.

1.24 The Committee now would like the Ministry of Rural Development to take up the matter with those State Governments who have yet to specify the time limit for processing the acquisition work at an appropriately high level and get it expedited.

Amendment to RAIP Act, 1952

Sl. Nos. 29 & 31 (Para Nos. 6.12 & 6.14)

1.25 The Committee had recommended that Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property (RAIP) Act, 1952 be amended without any delay so as to make provisions (i) for payment of solatium in cases where any requisitioned property is being acquired; (ii) fixing a maximum period of six years for releasing acquired property; and (iii) revision of recurring part of compensation after expiry of every three years.

1.26 While accepting in principle the above recommendations of the Committee, the Ministry of Urban Development have intimated that the proposal had been formulated to amend the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952 and got approved by the Minister of Urban Development for consideration of the Cabinet. The comments of concerned Ministries have been invited on the draft proposal before its submission to the Cabinet.

1.27 Appreciating the action initiated by the Government to amend the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property (RAIP) Act, 1952, the Committee hope that comments of the concerned Ministries would be obtained at an early date and the proposal submitted to the Cabinet. The Committee would like to be informed of the latest position in this regard within a period of three months.

Implementation of recommendations

1.28 The Committee would like to emphasise that greatest importance has to be attached to the implementation of recommendations accepted by the Government. They expect the Government to take expeditious steps in implementing such recommendations. In cases where it is not possible to implement the recommendations in letter and spirit for any reason, the matter should be reported to the Committee in time with reasons for non-implementation.

CHAPTER II

RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

Recommendation (Sl. No. 2, Para No. 1.42)

Keeping in view the high cost of creating additional infrastructure and the need for optimal utilisation of existing resources, the Committee feel that it is essential that the scales of land authorisation for different types of units of establishments of Defence Services are fixed taking into account present realities in regard to land use and availability in the country. The Committee, therefore, welcome the revision of Land Norms and hope that these norms will be kept under review on a periodic basis.

Action Taken

Adequate records of land data base are available for planning purposes. The land use norms are reviewed periodically. The yardsticks for land use in Cantonments, as laid down in the Handbook of Cantonment Planning 1947, were also reviewed and a cut of 41.8% was applied thereon, in 1991, as per this Ministry's letter No. 12026/41/84/D (Lands) dated 19-2-1991. The Committee's recommendation that further periodic reviews of land use norms be undertaken has been noted for compliance.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (Lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 5, Para No. 1.47)

The Committee further feel that with the existing procedure it might take an unduly long time to complete the identification and acquisition of land for organisation of ranges. They, therefore, recommend that a Special Team may be constituted for reorganisation of ranges for the Services so that it addresses itself to the totality of the problem from identification to acquisition.

Action Taken

Ministry of Defence have accepted this recommendation and, in pursuance thereof, constituted a Special Team under JS (PP/T&M), comprising Addl. Financial Adviser; Director (Ops), National Airport Authority; DIG(FC), Ministry of Environment & Forests; and senior officials of the Army of the rank of Major General as Members. Necessary orders constituting the Committee were issued vide No. 12(2)/90/D(GS-II) dated 7th September, 1992. The Special Team has been asked to submit its first report to the Ministry within a period of 6 months.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D/(Lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 8, Para No. 1.50)

Under the Manoeuvres, Field Firing and Artillery Practice Act, 1938 Army are not liable to pay any rent or any other recurring payment to the land owners for conducting field firing in the notified ranges which are either private or State Government lands. The Committee consider this a legacy of colonial rule. They recommend that the Government should give a fair deal to the land holders who are forcibly dispossessed for a specified duration of the year and give them due compensation including damages for crops. The Committee urge that for this purpose, if necessary, relevant amendments may be carried out in the Act in consultation with the State Governments. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the government in this regard.

Action Taken

Persons displaced from their properties during the conduct of field firing are paid compensation in accordance with the provisions of the Manoeuvres Field Firing & Artillery Practice Act, 1938. They are also paid compensation for damage, if any, caused to their property during the conduct of field firing. The rate of compensation is laid down by the respective State Governments. Their compensation paid during the last three years is as under :—

1988-89 — Rs. 52,73,972.00

1989-90 — Rs. 99,56,845.00

1990-91 — Rs. 22,88,546.00

At present, no rent is payable to the owners for use of the property. This aspect has also been duly considered in the proposed amendment to the Manoeuvres Field Firing and Artillery Practice Act, 1938.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (Lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 9, Para No. 1.51)

The Committee note that there have been instances where the Ministry of Defence have failed to take timely action in issuing the necessary notification for continuing temporary occupation of land on lease which has created avoidable problems. The Committee are of the view that the time lag between the expiry of lease and its renewal etc. should be cut to the minimum so as to avoid harassment to the land owners.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 10, Para No. 1.52)

The Committee recommend that where Defence Services intend to extend occupation of any land for a further specific period adequate notice should be given to the affected parties. They also expect such cases to be duly monitored by the DGDE.

Action Taken on paras 1.51 and 1.52

Most of the cases of unauthorised occupation of land by the Army are in the Eastern Command where the Army is actively employed on internal security duties. In other Commands there are only a few cases of this nature, and these cases are being regularised. Detailed instructions have been issued to all the Commands, vide Army Hqrs. Note. No. C/00088/Q3 (Policy) dated 4.4.1991 to minimise unauthorised occupation (copy enclosed).

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (Lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No.11, Para No. 2.39)

While the Committee would like the Ministry to expedite the final assessment of the three Services in regard to lands which are surplus such as abandoned air fields and camping grounds they would like this exercise to be carried out with some degree of finality. All efforts may be made to transfer such lands to the State Governments concerned and other Departments/Public Sector Undertakings of the Central Government. At the same time the Committee desire that the option of disposing of such lands on a commercial basis needs to be considered seriously and promptly. They would also suggest that some of these lands may be offered to civilian population living in the adjoining areas and having already encroached upon or having access to these lands through the respective State Governments. In case State Governments do not come forward to take over these lands under a time bound programme and on terms reasonably advantageous to the Ministry of Defence, the Committee are of the view that the Ministry of Defence should feel free to either use them for self-financing housing projects for the benefit of retiring Defence personnel through the Army Welfare Housing Organisations or use it for other commercial purposes with the assistance of agencies like L.I.C. and Housing Urban Development Corporation. The Committee also feel that such lands can also be advantageously utilised for rehabilitation of persons displaced from lands which have been acquired by the Ministry in some other locations in consultation with State Governments.

Action Taken

An inhouse "Study for Optimisation of Defence lands" including camping grounds, abandoned airfields, disused ranges and isolated pockets of lands has been made. The Study Report is expected to be finalised shortly. With the completion of this exercise an assessment in regard to the surplus lands will be completed.

As per policy, surplus Camping Grounds are to be first offered to the respective State Governments in which they are located, on realisation of market value. Accordingly, 190 camping grounds have been offered to the various State Governments. In case the State Govts. do not evince interest, the camping grounds in question will be sold at market price to interested Ministries/Depts. in the Central Govt. (other than Ministry of Defence)/Central Govt. PSUs/PSUs in State Govts./local bodies/charitable/educational institutions, in this order of priority. There has been considerable delay in securing responses from the State Governments. The Ministry are taking steps to expedite the process.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (Lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 12, Para No. 2.40)

The Committee recommend that apart from grassbirs at Gwalior other classified forests being maintained by the Ministry of Defence, as a part of various hill Cantonments, should also be considered for transfer to the Ministry of Environment and Forests. However, they desire the Ministry of Defence to keep on maintaining those forest areas where they have been using the land even partially.

Action Taken

The Ministry of Defence accept this recommendation in principle. Defence field agencies are taking adequate care to preserve existing forest areas.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (Lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 13, Para No. 2.42)

The Committee recommend to the Ministry of Defence that Old Grant sites and lands which are not needed by the Ministry of Defence and also do not pose any danger to their establishments, may be considered for sale to the original allottees or their successors, subject to the verdict of the Supreme Court on appeals on Punc resumption cases. The Committee expect that the Ministry would undertake such an exercise concurrent with progress of cases pending in the Courts of Law.

Action Taken

The Defence Land Policy is being revised to provide a more rational and practical approach towards Holders of Occupancy Rights and lease holders of old grant sites in bungalow and civil areas.

The revised policy attempts to encourage conversion into free hold of both lease and old grant sites in civil areas by offering easier terms while in the bungalow areas, the terms of occupancy of old grant sites are being liberalised, with provisions for repairs/renovation and additions which, inter-alia, include a streamlined procedure for payment of compensation to resumptee owners through a Committee constituted for the assessment of

compensation after a due opportunity to the Holders of Occupancy Rights is given. The proposed policy changes take into account the medium terms security requirements and the need to remove legitimate difficulties faced by holders of occupancy rights and lease holders without prejudice to Govt. ownership over resumable tenures.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (Lands)]

Recommendation [Sl. No.15(4), Para No. 2.48]

That Cantonment Boards should be encouraged to identify area which are financially unviable and commercially utilise such areas in the Cantonments as are not likely to serve any Defence purpose.

Action Taken

Director General of Defence Estates had directed Directors, Defence Estates in all the 5 Commands on 11.9.89 to prepare schemes for self financing commercial complexes/shopping centres. Following this instruction, such shopping complexes have come up in various Cantonments like Meerut, Agra, Mhow and Jammu etc.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 10(26)/92-D(Q&C) dated 20.1.93]].

Recommendation [Sl. No.15(6), Para No. 2.48]

That in the development of civic functions like sewage, water and power etc. in the Cantonment areas there should be great coordination and joint planning with the existing civilian authorities of the respective States.

Action Taken

Cantonment Boards while planning development of civic functions like sewage, supply of drinking water and power etc. in the cantonment areas do consult adjoining municipal authorities/committees in their respective States and work on coordinated and joint planning relating to civic functions

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 10(26)/92-D(Q&C) dated 20.1.93]].

Recommendation [Sl. No. 15 (7), Para No. 2.48]

That in order to ease the housing shortage in the Contonments, the FSI restrictions, building bye-laws and the land use policy be so reformulated as to ensure:

- (a) Optimum utilisation of the scarce resource of land;
- (b) expeditious urban renewal of the station;
- (c) decongestion of crowded locality; and
- (d) planned and regulated development of vacant/scarcely populated localities.

Action Taken

Generally, a lower FSI is adopted in Cantonment Planning with reference to the prevalent FSI in the adjoining municipalities to facilitate decongestion & preserve the existing status of the environment. Moreover, the present land policy is restrictive to the extent that additions/alterations

are not allowed on 'bungalow sites'. However, the scope of permissible additions/alterations on such areas is under revision.

In certain congested 'civil areas' there is a demand to increase the FSI at par with the adjoining municipality. The Director General Defence Estates has taken up a review of FSI restrictions and building bye-laws of various cantonments for suitable modifications, wherever required.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 10 (26)/92-D (Q & C) dated 20.1.93]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 16, Para No. 3.21)

The Committee desire that the question of rationalising and redeploying land and building resources may be pursued vigorously. At the same time Government ought to ponder over the principle of self-financing in the Defence Services to the extent feasible. This, however, can be possible only if funds generated by the Ministry of Defence by sale of surplus land and other assets are permitted to be ploughed back into the Defence Services Estimates through suitable changes in principles of Finance and Accounting or under an informal arrangement with Ministry of Finance. The Committee urge the Government to consider this suggestion with utmost seriousness.

Action Taken

The recommendation of the Estimates Committee has been accepted in principle. Efforts have been made to rationalise and redeploy land and building resources.

As regards the principle of self-financing, the matter has been examined in consultation with Ministry of Finance. That Ministry has agreed to the proposal to plough back the sale proceeds from disposal of surplus assets to Defence Services Estimates to bridge the gap between requirements and availability of funds.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (Lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 17, Para No. 3.23)

The Committee feel that the timely completion of land acquisition process and speedy disbursement of compensation to the land is most essential and, therefore, urge the Government in the Ministry of Agriculture (Department of Rural Development) to impress upon the Ministries/Departments to ensure adequate budgetary allocation so that disbursement of compensation and taking over of possession of land after the declaration of award, are not postponed or delayed for any reason whatsoever.

Action Taken

This point has already been impressed upon the State Governments and the Central Ministries/Departments on the basis of the Consensus arrived at in the Land Acquisition Conference held on 5th July, 1989. However, a letter has been addressed to the Central Ministries/Departments on the subject.

[Ministry of Rural Development O.M. No. 11015/3/92-LRD dated 25.9.92]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 18, Para No. 3.24)

The Committee desire that requirement of funds for land acquisition should be examined properly so that precise estimates are made thus leaving little scope for any variation between the budget estimates and the actual expenditure.

Action Taken

Detailed instructions have been issued *vide* our letter No. 11011/1/92/D (Lands) dated 4.2.1992 regarding processing and finalisation of land acquisition cases (Appendix A). The instructions exhaustively cover cost estimates (paras 5.1 to 8.1 of the letter *ibid*), payment of compensation (paras 12.1 to 15.1) and monitoring and review (paras 16.1 to 17.1) of the land acquisition cases. Compliance of the instructions is expected to minimise variation between the budget estimates and actual expenditure.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 19, Para No. 4.40)

The Committee recommend that the Ministry of Defence should work out appropriate modalities for maintaining active liaison with the State Governments in order to ensure smooth and speedy acquisition of land for Defence purposes.

Action Taken

The instructions contained in this Ministry's letter No. 11011/1/92/D (Lands) dated 4.2.1992 lay down modalities to ensure speedy land acquisition and prompt payment of compensation for the land acquired. The field agencies have been directed to liaise with the State Govts. to expedite action on their part, under Section 6, 9, 11 and 17 of the Land Acquisition Act as applicable, with a view to expediting the final declaration of awards.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (Lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 21, Para No. 4.42)

The Committee further stress the need for encouraging the State Governments to establish State and District Level Standing Committee to examine land acquisition proposal, on the pattern of those constituted by the State Government of Punjab.

Action Taken

A letter to the State Governments has been addressed in the matter.

[Ministry of Rural Development O.M. No. P. 11015/3/92-LRD dated 25.9.92]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 26, Para No. 5.55)

The Committee desire the Ministry to take all steps considered necessary so as to improve the situation wherein disbursement of compensation to land losers is made after protracted delay. They recommend that as a first step, the Ministry of Defence should seek from the DEOs in the field formations a statement of outstanding cases of payment of compensation to land losers on declaration of the awards and thereafter draw up a programme to liquidate all such outstanding compensation within a fixed time-frame.

The Committee also expect the Ministry to devise a scheme with a view to keeping a close watch over the actual disbursement of the compensation to the land owners.

Action Taken

Ministry of Defence accepts that once an award is declared, compensation required to be paid should be sanctioned promptly and deposited with the authorities concerned for disbursement to the persons interested.

DGDE has prepared a statement of outstanding cases of sanction of compensation after declaration of awards, as on 8.10.1992. As per this report, there were 3 cases in this category under the J & K Land Acquisition Act, in the Northern Command, and 1 case under Land Acquisition Act, 1894, in the Western Command. The compensation in the outstanding case in Western Command has been since sanctioned.

There are 6 pending cases of acquisition of previously requisitioned land in which final compensation is yet to be sanctioned. 4 of these pertain to Northern Command, under J & K RAIP Act. The remaining 2 cases pertaining to Southern Command and Eastern Command are under RAIP Act, 1952. Steps have been taken to expedite the finalisation of these pending cases. DGDE have been instructed to monitor the progress of such cases regularly and reflect such cases in their quarterly reports.

In pursuance of the recommendation of the Estimates Committee, Ministry of Defence have examined the problem areas in the matter of land acquisition and payment of compensation for the same and laid down detailed guidelines for the expeditious finalisation of such cases as per their letter No. 11011/1/92/D(Lands) dated 4th February, 1992.

The scheme envisages a monthly review by DGDE and a quarterly review by Service HQrs of all pending cases in order to ensure expeditious finalisation of land acquisition cases and prompt payment of compensation to the persons interested. Such monthly/quarterly reports are then reviewed in the Ministry of Defence on a regular basis.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92D (Lands)].

Recommendation (Sl. No. 27, Para No. 5.58)

The Committee would recommend that instructions may be issued to all Command/Formations/Local Defence Estate Organisations to comply with the guidelines laid down for selection of sites for acquisition.

Action Taken

Part 'C' of Annexure I to this Ministry's letter No. 11011/1/92/D (Lands) dated 4.2.92 prescribes an elaborate questionnaire which has been designed to guide the field level officers in the matter of selection of sites.

Army HQs have also issued guidelines for the selection of sites for acquisition. The other users, such as Air Force, Navy etc. are also being advised to issue similar guidelines to their lower formations.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (Lands)].

Recommendation (Sl. No. 28, Para No. 5.59)

The Committee expect the Ministry of Defence to ensure that the field level officers of Defence Estate Organisation are fully conversant with the rules and regulations of various State Governments governing acquisition of land.

Action Taken

The field officers of Defence Estates Organisation are conversant with the State Governments' Rules and Regulations governing land acquisition. They try to keep themselves abreast of modifications to such rules and regulations, as and when they take place.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (Lands)].

Recommendation (Sl. No. 29 Para No. 6.12)

The Committee are convinced that a maximum period of six years will be the reasonable time limit for acquiring or releasing the requisitioned properties. The Committee recommend that the RAIP Act, 1952 may be amended accordingly.

Action Taken/Proposed to be Taken

The Ministry of Urban Development have accepted in principle the recommendations of the Estimates Committee and have formulated a proposal for approval of the Cabinet for amendment of the RAIP Act, 1952 as proposed by the Committee. The proposal has been approved by the Minister of Urban Development. The comments of concerned Ministries have been invited on the proposal on receipt of which the proposal will be formally placed before the Cabinet for approval/directions.

[Ministry of Urban Development O.M. No. 17013/292-Pal IV dt. 8.4.93]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 30, Para No. 6.13)

The Committee desire that the Ministry of Urban Development who are the nodal Ministry for the RAIP Act, should impress upon all the Ministries/Departments to take expeditious action for timely release of requisitioned properties. It should be made clear that it is the responsibility of each Ministry/Department which has requisitioned the properties to ensure that these are acquired only when conditions specified in the Act for acquisition are fulfilled or released from requisition within the period specified in the Act. The Committee desires that in cases where there is delay and the provisions of the Act are violated apart from releasing immediately such properties the responsibility may be invariably fixed and suitable administrative action taken against the officers found guilty of negligence or apathy.

Action Taken

Necessary instructions have been issued to all Ministries/Departments. (Copy enclosed).

[Ministry of Urban Development O.M. No. 17013/292-Pal IV dt. 8.4.93]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 31, Para No. 6.14)

In order to compensate the dispossessed persons for inflation that erodes the real value of compensation the Committee recommend that the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immoveable Property Act, 1952 be amended to provide for revision of the recurring part of the compensation after the expiry of every three years.

Action Taken/Proposed to be Taken

The Ministry of Urban Development have accepted in principle the recommendations of the Estimates Committee and have formulated a proposal for approval of the Cabinet for amendment of the RAIP Act, 1952 as proposed by the Committee. The proposal has been approved by the Minister of Urban Development. The comments of concerned Ministries have been invited on the proposal on receipt of which the proposal will be formally placed before the Cabinet for approval/directions.

(Ministry of Urban Development O.M. No. 17013/292-Pal IV dt. 8.4.93)

Recommendation (Sl. No. 34, Para No. 7.31)

The Committee fully endorse the view of the Ministry of Defence that 'for dedicated legal support on matter connected with compensation, it is desirable that each Directorate and in the offices of DEOs having large number of References/Appel cases, an officer of the Ministry of Law or the legal Department of the State Governments, should be provided on deputation basis.'

Action Taken

The Ministry of Law have been addressed to provide necessary legal support to the Offices of DEOs and Directorate of Defence Estates in the Commands. The matter will be pressed with Ministry of Law, to implement the Committee's recommendation.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/2/92/D (Lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 37, Para No. 7.39)

In the opinion of the Committee the proposals of the Ministry of Defence to empower Estate Officers to requisition and secure police assistance for eviction of unauthorised occupants and to provide for adequate penalties for encroachers, merit favourable consideration by the Ministry of Urban Development. The Committee also desire the Ministry of Urban Development to finalise early, the proposal of the Ministry of Defence to extend the provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 to Cantonment Boards.

Action Taken

It has been decided to include the Cantonment Boards under the purview of the 'Public Premises' (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971. This has been incorporated in the proposal for moving a Government Amendment to the Bill pending before the Lok Sabha. With the approval of the Minister for Urban Development, the draft Cabinet note in this regard has been referred to the Law Ministry.

[Ministry of urban Development O.M. No. 170132/92-Pal IV dt. 8.4.93]

CHAPTER III

RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE IN VIEW OF GOVERNMENT'S REPLIES

Recommendation (Sl. No. 1, Para No. 1.38)

The Committee find that verified details of land required under each of these categories is not readily available with the Ministry of Defence. Consequently the Committee are unable to ascertain the short fall of land required under different categories.

The Committee cannot comprehend how any meticulously planning in respect of acquisition of land for defence purpose can be done in the absence of relevant basic data. They, therefore, consider it desirable that appropriate action is taken to maintain such data. The Committee would like to be apprised of the action taken by the Ministry in this behalf.

Action Taken

In the Army, requirement of land for housing and the related facilities, training areas and establishments, store depots and yards, testing arms; ammunitions and explosives is worked out under the following heads:—

- (a) Key Location Plan (KLP)
- (b) Small Arms Ranges *i.e.* Classification and grenade ranges.
- (c) Store Depots.
- (d) Field Firing Ranges.
- (e) Military Farms.
- (f) RVC.
- (g) Camping Grounds etc.

For each of the heads specific yards sticks have been laid down to determine precise requirements. The norms of determination of land requirements are laid down in the Hand Book of Cantonment Planning 1947 and are reviewed periodically with a view to optimising utilisation of land by the Defence Services.

Based on the above norms, data about land holdings/deficiency are maintained by Service HQrs. These are invariably used for all planning purposes, including fresh proposals for land acquisition.

[Ministry of Defence O.M.No. 14018/1/92/D (lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 3, Para No. 1.43)

Some of the Cantonments have been encircled by dense urban agglomeration which, as it is, need appropriate lung spaces. The Committee, therefore, recommend a cautious and selective approach in enforcing the proposed cut in regard to such Cantonments. They would expect the defence authorities to liaise with their counterparts in the civilian administration for this purpose.

Action Taken

No new Cantonment has been established since 1962. Originally, all Cantonments were established away from the civil areas. Over the years, civil population has spread around the Cantonments. The ratio of civilian population to the Military has increased from 1:3 to 1:2. The lay-out of the Cantonments generally take into account environmental and ecological considerations and green areas are preserved/created. Constructions in the Cantonment areas are required to conform to building bye-laws, including FSI framed by the Cantonment Boards. An exercise is underway to study various building bye-laws for formulating model building bye-laws to be followed by all the Cantonments. Civilian experts are also associated with this study.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 4, Para No. 1.46)

From a long term perspective the Ministry must acquire as many permanent ranges as it can afford and the circumstances permit. The Committee desire that a long terms programme of land acquisition may be drawn and implemented for this purpose. However, at the same time the Committee quite clearly see the usefulness of carrying out the suggested amplifications in the Manoeuvres, Field Firing and Artillery Practice Act, 1938. The Committee are of the firm view that these amendments will not only ease the problem of the Army in the immediate context but will also provide necessary leeway for rationalisation of the ranges at a future date if so warranted by the requirements of the training.

Action Taken

This recommendation is acceptable, in principle. However, the Army has not been able to acquire field firing ranges on account of huge costs of acquisition and non-availability of alternative sites for ranges in cases of forest areas. The Army has acquired 6 category I Ranges and one category II Range. Besides these ranges, the Army has 5 small acquired/partially acquired ranges. It has been felt that a mix of acquired and notified ranges would meet the requirements of the Army.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 14, Para No. 2.43)

As the Committee have been assured by the Defence Secretary, the Government will take an early decision on the recommendations of the Study Team in deciding about the alternative uses of land which may become available once Military Farms are closed.

Action Taken

An Army Study Team under the Chairmanship of Major Gen. S. Mohindra (Retd) recommended closure of certain Military Farms in Western, Southern and Central Command and also recommended the following alternative use of land vacated on closure of Military Farms:—

- (a) Put the land under custody of nearby Army Units, on vacation, to prevent encroachment.
- (b) For growing fodder and cash crops.
- (c) Goat/Poultry/Eggs Farms.

Army HQrs are of the view that this report was based on the random data collected from various Command HQrs and an indepth analysis of these recommendations was carried out in Army HQrs. As per the existing approach, all non-milk producing Military Dairy Farms other than Northern Eastern Command and milk scarce areas will be closed down. With this approach, 4 Military Dairy Farms located at Wellington, Baroda, Mathura and Fatchgarh have already been closed down. The process of closure of other dairy farms will be taken up in a phased manner. It has also been decided that the non-milk producing dairy faams in the Northern and Eastern Command shall be provided with milk animals, wherever feasible, to convert them into milk producing dairy farms with the twin objective of providing fresh milk to the troops in these areas and also to show to the local population that the milk production could be a viable business in these areas.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 15(1), Para No. 2.48)

That Cantonments be treated on the same basis as other Union Territories/Local Bodies are treated in regard to maintenance grants.

Action Taken

There is a basic difference between Cantonments and Union Territories. While Cantonment Boards are local/municipal bodies created under the Cantonments Act 1924 with civic responsibilities, the Union Territories are units of civil administration. The size of civil population in Cantonments is generally low and the extent of civil area/private land is very small. The source of income of Cantonment Boards is also limited as the bulk of the property is Govt. owned on which no tax is levied. The Central

Govt. provides assistance to Cantonment Boards in the shape of grants-in-aid to meet the expenditure for making provisions of civic amenities and other development works like supply of drinking water, sanitation facilities repair of roads etc. Union Territories are directly administered by the Central Govt. and administration of Union Territories is carried out under Articles 239-241 of the Constitution. The budget of Union Territories (without Legislature) under Plan and Non-Plan is fully met from the provisions made in the Central budget. In the case of Pondicherry Union Territory (with Legislature) provisions under Non-Plan are fixed by the Ministry of Finance and provisions under Plan are fixed by the Planning Commission and funds are released to this Union Territory in the form of grants-in-aid and loans to meet the Non-Plan revenue deficit and Plan expenditure, respectively. As such, Union Territories form an integral part of the planning process and draw up their Development Plans which are funded by the Planning Commission.

In view of the above, it is not possible to treat the Cantonment Boards at par with the Union Territories/local bodies in regard to the maintenance grants, within the existing framework.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 10(26)/92-D(Q&C) dated 20.1.93]]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 15(5), Para No. 2.48)

That the existing homogeneous civic areas from old Cantonments like Shillong, Pune, Barrackpore be identified for ultimately handing them over to the adjoining civic municipalities.

Action Taken

As a result of recommendations of the Excision Committees/Estimates Committees, Govt. decided that civil areas in 6 Cantonments, namely Agra, Meerut, Allahabad, Banaras, Delhi and Jhansi be partly excised. The excised areas were merged with the adjoining municipal areas for the purpose of municipal administration. In respect of Ambala, Kirkee and Pune, though the Central Committees had recommended excision of certain areas, Govt. decided that no excision be done as the local population was in favour of these areas continuing within the Cantonments. There was no delimitation thereafter except parts of Ambala and Khasyol Cantonments in 1979 and 1986 respectively. A proposal for excision of Danapur Nizamat was not accepted by the Govt. of Bihar. Recently, on receipt of representations from several quarters and reports in several News Papers, the matter was examined in depth and Govt. have decided not to excise any civil area from the Cantonments.

It may be mentioned that as a Govt. policy, it was decided that from 1962 onwards, only military stations would be set up and not cantonments.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 10(26)/92-D(Q&C) dated 20.1.93]]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 15(8), Para No. 2.48)

The Ministry of Defence should evolve a long-term plan for identification and consolidation of military areas within the cantonments and their ultimate conversion into military stations.

Action Taken

Cantonments are really military stations where Forces are quartered and trained. The civil population mainly confines to bazar areas which forms only a small part of the local area of the cantonments. The larger part consists of barracks and bungalow area, parade ground and recreation ground etc. Cantonments are, therefore, primarily military stations and over riding consideration there is the military interests. The general view of the civil population residing in cantonment areas appears to be in favour of continuance of cantonment administration. It was decided to excise certain areas for which the Army had no use in the cantonments of Ambala, Pune and Agra, but the civil population there objected to such excision and ultimately the proposal had to be dropped.

However, as a matter of policy, Govt. have decided to set up military stations and not cantonments from 1962 onwards.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 10(26)/92-D(Q&C) dated 20.1.93]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 20, Para No. 4.41)

The Committee note that Punjab is the only State where Government have prescribed a PERT table for monitoring progress of land acquisition cases. The Committee feel that in order to ensure completion of land acquisition within the statutory time schedule of three years the Ministry of Defence ought to strive to see that the example of Punjab is followed by all other States. The Committee, therefore, desire that DGDE should monitor the land acquisition cases on the basis of a PERT table duly dovetailed with the corresponding PERT tables of the project for which land is being acquired. The Government should also take up the matter with the State Governments for making monitoring through PERT technique mandatory in such cases.

Action Taken

This point mainly relates to the Ministry of Defence. However, not only Punjab but many other States like Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Orissa, Sikkim, West Bengal, Kerala, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Bihar, Pondicherry and Andaman and Nicobar Islands have prescribed the time limits for completing various stages of acquisition proceedings. This Ministry in 1987 had also impressed upon the States to fix appropriate time limits for completion of various stages of works and processes of land acquisition proceedings. A letter from Govt. of Andhra Pradesh was also circulated amongst the State Governments in this regard for their information. As for the suggestion regarding that the matter may

be taken up with the State Governments for making monitoring through PERT technique mandatory it is stated that making monitoring through pert technique mandatory does not seem necessary because the Act already provides for an over-all time limit of three years within which the acquisition authorities are required to complete the proceedings otherwise the proceedings automatically get lapsed. Moreover, many States, as indicated above, have already prescribed the time Schedule for the purpose and this Ministry has already laid stress on its importance. The Land Acquisition Conference held in July, 1989 also emphasised the need for arrangements for effective and regular monitoring of this work at all levels which may cover the entire gamut of the land acquisition work starting from the notification under Section 4(1) to payment of compensation and delivery of possession of land. The Conference also laid stress on the need for prescribing time limit for completion of various processes in the interest of expeditious disposal of proceedings. The State Governments have been advised accordingly.

In view of the steps taken above, making mandatory provision for monitoring through PERT technique, as suggested by the Committee, is not considered necessary.

[Ministry of Rural Development O.M. No. P. 11015/3/92-LRD dated 25.9.92]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 23, Para No. 5.47)

The Committee, therefore, desire the Ministry of Rural Development to examine the various principles adopted by the State Governments for fixation of market value of the land to determine how far these have given rise to prolonged and costly litigations for enhancement in compensation awarded by Land Acquisition authorities. The Committee also call upon the Ministry to suggest ways of removing the existing deficiencies both in the law and procedure, in the interest of the land losers and the State. While examining the matter, the Committee would like the Government to keep in mind the fact that land for owner is not only an asset but also a mean of livelihood and when he is deprived of the same, he should be suitably compensated for the same. The Committee would like to be apprised of outcome of such an exercise.

Action Taken

The Land Acquisition Act, 1894 was comprehensively amended only recently in 1984 *inter alia* with a view to serve the interests of the community in harmony with the rights of individuals. The amended Act not only provides for payment of market value of the land as provided under Section 23(1) but in addition to that the Act also provides for payment of amount for damages if any, solatium @30% of such market value in consideration of the compulsory nature of acquisition and an additional amount @ 12% per annum of the market value from the date of the publication of the notification under

Section 4(1) to the date of award of the Collector or the date of taking possession of the land whichever is earlier. Besides this, in case there is a delay in payment of compensation or the court has awarded a higher amount of compensation than what the Collector has awarded, there is a provision for payment of higher amount of interest on such delayed payments and excess compensation @ 9% per annum for the first year and 15% per annum for the period thereafter. These liberal provisions of the amended Act make the compensation more realistic and just which adequately protect the interest of the land owners/farmers who are deprived of their land. These provisions go a long way in meeting people's grievances and reducing litigations. The provisions of the L.A. Act, 1894, as amended in 1984, for determining the amount of compensation are considered quite adequate to safeguard the interest of land losers and reduce litigation. The Act at the same time also takes due care of the State's interest. Therefore, the Ministry of Rural Development does not consider any change in the law and the procedure. Regarding the fixation of market value of the land, it is stated that there is a tendency to under-value the land while registering sale-deeds and these sale deeds are taken into account by the State Govt. for determining the market value of the land under acquisition. The State Govts. are already aware of this problem and many States have provided necessary safeguards against it while determining market value of the land. This point was also discussed at the Land Acquisition conference held in July, 1989 which held the view that while there is no need to change the provision of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, appropriate measures may be taken to ensure that realistic market value of the land proposed to be acquired is taken into account for determination of compensation such as fixing a minimum value of land for specific areas and different classes of land from time to time for purposes of payment of stamp duty and or determination of other taxes. The State Governments have been advised accordingly.

In view of this, no further exercise seems necessary.

[Ministry of Rural Development O.M. P. 110152/3.92-LRD dated 25.9.92]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 24, Para No. 5.51)

The Committee firmly believe that RAIP Act be amended without any delay so as to provide for payment of solatium in cases where any requisitioned property is sought to be acquired. However, till such an amendment is made, the Committee recommend that owners of the property should be given an option to receive compensation either on the pattern of Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952 or Land Acquisition Act, 1894.

Action Taken

The Ministry of Urban Development accepts in principle to amend the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952, as recommended by the Committee so as to make a provision for payment of solatium in cases where any requisitioned property is acquired. A proposal has been formulated in this regard and approved by the Minister of Urban Development for consideration of the Cabinet. The comments of concerned Ministries have been invited on the draft proposal before its submission to the Cabinet.

The recommendations of the Committee with regard to giving an option to the owner of the property to receive compensation either on the pattern of Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952 or Land Acquisition Act, 1994 have been considered in the Ministry of Urban Development again. It is felt that there is no provision either in the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 or in the RAIP Act, 1952 for giving an option to the interested persons/owner of the property to receive compensation in the manner other than provided under the provisions of the relevant Act under which the property is being acquired. It has therefore, not been found possible to give any such option to the owner.

[Ministry of Urban Development O.M. No. 17013/2/92-Pol.IV dated 8.4.93]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 25, Para No. 5.53)

The Committee feel that the land acquiring Department should explore possibility of entering into a negotiated award as contemplated in Section 11(2) of the Land Acquisition Act. They believe that by entering into negotiated awards the long drawn out legal process for enhancement of compensation and payment of interest for the intervening period, which add up to a considerable amount, can perhaps be avoided. The Committee, therefore, recommend that when the process of land acquisition proceedings is initiated, a Committee comprising the Representatives of the Acquiring Department, and the Land Acquisition Collector concerned should be constituted to hold negotiations with interested persons for settlement of the amount of compensation.

Action Taken

Section 11(2) of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 lays down that if at any stage of the proceedings, the Collector is satisfied that all persons interested in the land who appeared before him have agreed in writing on the matters to be included in the award of the Collector, he may without making further enquiry, make an award according to the terms of such agreement. It is the Collector who enters into negotiations and makes an award by agreement. The requisitioning department therefore cannot enter into such negotiations or agreement under Section 11(2) of

the Act. They may, if they so wish, purchase the land from the land owners out of the purview of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894.

It should be left to the Collector only to hold negotiations with the persons interested for settlement of the amount of compensation as the association of the Requisitioning Agency as a member of the Committee is likely to affect the fair and impartial decision of the Collector in arriving at the amount of compensation during negotiations with the persons interested. The Act does not provide for any such arrangement. Moreover, once the powers to acquire land for the purposes of the Union have been delegated to the State Government under Article 258(1) of the Constitution, it would be in the fitness of the things to leave the matter to the Collector to arrive independently, without prejudicing his mind, at an agreement with affected landowners.

[Ministry of Rural Development O.M. No. P.11015/3/92-LRD Dated 25.9.92]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 32, Para No. 6.15)

The Committee also find it reasonable that in accordance with the principles for payment of compensation enshrined in the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 an additional amount as a percentage of the recurring part of the compensation should also be paid to the land owner as solatium because in the opinion of the Committee the land owner is equally helpless in the matter of requisition under RAIP Act, 1952.

Action Taken

The recommendation of the Estimates Committee has been examined in detail and on the basis of its recommendations in para 5.51 of the Report, the Ministry of Urban Development has formulated a proposal to amend the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952 to provide for payment of solatium at 30% of the market value of a requisitioned property which it would have fetched if it had remained in the same condition as it was on the date of requisition and had been sold on the date of acquisition. Since the Land Acquisition Act also does not provide for payment of compensation, other than at the time of acquisition it will not be possible to pay any additional amount as a percentage of recurring part of the compensation to the landlord as solatium during the requisitioning of the property under RAIP Act, on the analogy of the former act.

[Ministry of Urban Development O.M. No. 170132/92-PAL IV, Dated 8.4.93]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 33, Para No. 7.30)

As the verified land plan with boundary description is the elementary requirement for ownership proof of the land belonging to the Defence services, the Committee recommend that work on the preparation and verification of boundaries of the remaining cases of land acquisition should be taken up and completed on priority basis. The Committee would also

like to apprise within six months of the progress achieved by the local Defence authorities in clearing the arrears in this regard.

Action Taken

Detailed reports from the Lower Formations have been invited to determine whether physical survey of Defence land is considered essential for proper management and control of Category 'A' establishments. The Lower Formations have also been instructed to ensure that the demarcation of all A-1 land (i.e. the land which is directly under the control of Army) is completed by constructing boundary pillars. They are also required to carry out verification of boundaries in conjunction with DEOs and the concerned Military Engineering Service personnel. All the Command Hqrs. have been asked to sanction the requisite Works and send completion reports by 31st December, 1992.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (Lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 35, Para No. 7.32)

The Committee recommend that pending a detailed work-study by the Staff Inspection Unit of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Expenditure), the Ministry of Defence should identify the additional staff requirements of the DEO on the basis of the analysis by Establishment Study Team and other cadre reviews and formulate specific proposals for necessary financial sanctions. The Committee feel that already much time has been lost and situation has reached a sorry pass. They are of the strong view that there should be no further delays in according necessary financial sanction for required additional staff. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Government in the Ministry of Finance should accord necessary financial sanction keeping in view specific needs of DEO and urgency deserved in the matter. The Committee may be apprised of the action taken in this regard.

Action Taken

There is no departmental Establishment Study Team in Defence Estates Organisation. Detailed work study by SIU of the Ministry of Finance in respect of offices of Defence Estates Organisation has commenced. SIU has visited most of the offices and the remaining offices are likely to be covered shortly. A case for Government sanction for the additional staff will be initiated on the basis of recommendations of SIU, when received.

As far as the cadre review is concerned, with a view to reducing administrative expenditure, a review is being carried out by all Departments/Ministries to identify atleast 10% posts below Joint Secretary level which could be abolished. Pending review and decision on this, Ministry of Finance have directed not to progress cadre review proposals. Action on the cadre review proposals has, therefore, been kept in abeyance in view of these directions.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D (Lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 36, Para No. 7.34)

The Committee are of the view that a review of delegation of financial powers to officers of DEO establishment is overdue and, therefore, desire that such a review be conducted expeditiously in regard to powers vesting at different levels in regard to all matters of requisitioning and acquisition of properties both under RAIP Act and LA Act. The Committee consider a simultaneous corresponding enhancement in financial powers delegated to Formation Commanders, in the matter of hiring of immovable properties, is also warranted keeping in view the inflationary impact.

Action Taken

There is no provision in the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, and the Rules made thereunder, to delegated Govt's financial powers to DGDE and Lower Formations of the three Services in the matter of acquisition of land and sanction of compensation to interested persons. These are prerogatives of the Central/State Governments. The Delegation of such powers is not considered advisable, as permanent acquisition of any land for Defence is an important policy matter which calls for coordinated action of the part of the Central Govt. and the concerned State Government/UT Administration.

However, the MOD are inclined to agree with the recommendation regarding enhancement of delegated financial powers of the Formation Commanders in the matter of hiring/requisitioning of immovable properties. The MOD also agree to correspondingly enhance the delegated financial powers to the Defence Estates Organisation for requisitioning of land and hiring of immovable properties under the RAIP Act, 1952, in view of the impact of rising costs. Necessary action has already been initiated in this regard.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/92/D (Lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 38, Para No. 7.40)

The Committee desire the Ministry of Defence to examine the legal and other implications of instructions issued for regularisation of encroachments on Defence lands not in active use of Services in the light of different State Laws in operation for the welfare of encroachers and also keeping in view the principle of equity which enjoins upon the Government to follow uniform approach throughout the country.

Action Taken

This Ministry consider, on the merits of each case, sale of land to such encroachers on vacant Defence lands, provided that the encroachments form a compact block and no pockets are left inside. The regularisation of encroachments will be subject to the laws of the State Government, particularly with reference to the ceiling laws.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/92/D (Lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 39, Para No. 8.24)

The Committee recommend that the Department of Rural Development should undertake the task of enacting a common law on the subject of requisition and acquisition of land by the Union as well as States. However, before drafting a Bill for this purpose the Committee would expect the Ministry to first undertake an indepth and thorough study of the various Central and State / Union Territories Laws and closely interact with the concerned agencies with a view to finding out those features regarding procedure of acquisition, time limits for completion of acquisition proceedings, realistic market value of land, principles of compensation, speedy disbursement, opportunities for judicial reliefs to the aggrieved, statutory provision for rehabilitation grant, resettlement policy and preference in means of livelihood i.e. in employment opportunities allotment of commercial plots/space etc. and special provisions for lands in tribal areas where transactions of the land have not been recorded properly, which are most favourable and advantageous to the land loser, whereafter such features as are beneficial to the citizen can be blended for drafting a single unified legislation for the purposes of requisitioning and acquisition of immovable property for the Union as well as States/Union territories.

Action Taken

The subject of Acquisition and Requisition of Property is covered under Entry-42 of the Concurrent List and according to the long standing convention before legislating on a subject in the Concurrent List with regard to which both Parliament and the State Legislature have the power to make laws under Article 246, it is necessary for the Government of India or the State concerned to consult each other. Therefore, a uniform law would require consultation with all the State Governments, according to this long standing convention. Besides the policy of the Govt. of India is that acquisition of immovable property should be done only in accordance with the provisions of Land Acquisition Act, 1894.

2. Requisition of property on the other hand must necessarily be for a short and definite period. In case of necessity of acquisition of such properties, the same can be acquired only under section 7 of the Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property Act, 1952.

3. Generally, if any property is required for a long or indefinite period then such property is acquired under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 rather than requisitioned under any of the laws which are currently in force in different States.

4. Moreover, under Section 35 of L.A. Act 1894 whenever it appears to the appropriate Govt. any waste or arable lands are needed for any public purpose, or for a company the appropriate Govt. may direct the Collector to procure the occupation and use of the same for such term not exceeding 3 years from the commencement of such occupation. As such there is no need for having a common law for acquisition and requisition of property as recommended by the Estimates Committee.

[Ministry of Rural Development O.M. No. P. 11015/392-LRD Dated 25.9.92]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 40, Para No. 9.15)

In order to obviate the existing disparities in the relief and rehabilitation measures for persons affected by large scale acquisition of land for projects and to ensure resettlement of affected persons in appropriate manner on an equitable basis, the committee recommend that there should be a proper rehabilitation policy for the whole of country. They accordingly, urge the Government to have immediate consultations with the States with the objective of enacting an independent and comprehensive Central law in the matter.

Action Taken

The Ministry of Rural Development is concerned only with acquisition aspect and not with rehabilitation. Rehabilitation of persons displaced as result of acquisition of their land is presently the responsibility of the authorities of the project for which land is acquired. However, this Ministry agrees with the recommendations of the Committee that there should be a proper rehabilitation policy for the whole country for which there should be an independent and comprehensive Central law. The Ministry of Welfare is stated to be formulating a National Policy on Rehabilitation but that is confined only to the persons belonging to Scheduled Tribes. Apart from the Ministry of Welfare, the Ministry of Water Resources has also prepared a Draft National Policy for Rehabilitation and Resettlement. Similarly Department of Coal has prepared a rehabilitation policy for families displaced by acquisition of land for Coal projects. The need for a general policy for rehabilitation of other persons displaced on account of acquisition of land for development projects or due to natural calamities has been brought to the notice of the Cabinet Secretariat and they were requested to identify a nodal Ministry for the same. The matter is again being taken up with them in the light of the recommendations of the Estimates Committee.

[Ministry of Rural Development O.M. P. 11015/392-LRD Dated 25.9.92]

CHAPTER IV

RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH GOVT.'S REPLIES HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE AND WHICH REQUIRED REITERATION

Recommendation (Sl. No. 6, Para No. 1.48)

National Test Range is a vital requirement of the country. Unfortunately, for one reason or another the question of its acquisition has been dragging on for the past many years. The Committee desire that position may be reviewed, at appropriately high level, to resolve this problem through mutual discussion amongst all parties concerned.

Recommendation (Sl. No. 7, Para No. 1.49)

Apart from the Defence Services, National Test Range is being utilised also by the other agencies of the Government. They are, therefore, of the view that if this range is going to be used by various other agencies to a substantial extent, then the expense of acquisition and its maintenance should not be left to be borne entirely by Ministry of Defence, the resources of which are already scarce. The Committee desire that the cost of acquiring and maintaining National Test Range should be shared by users on a proportionate basis or through some practicable formula.

Action Taken on Paras 1.48 and 1.49

In 1982 Government had cleared a proposal for setting up the Instrumental Test Range as a 'National Facility' for testing/evaluation of performance of rockets and missiles and also for launching of satellites in polar orbit by Department of Space, for civil purposes.

The Expert Committee constituted by Ministry of Defence identified Baliapal, in Orissa, as the ideal site location for the launch facility. In September 1985, a 'Go Ahead' sanction of Rs. 25 crores was issued for the acquisition of 107.8 sq km of land to meet the following requirements:—

Facility	Area in Sq. Km.
(a) Range head	68.0
(b) Safety zone	37.0
(c) Down range tracking facilities	2.8
	<hr/>
	107.8
	<hr/>

However, the local population has been agitating against the land acquisition. As such, in spite of efforts at the highest levels in the Central and the State Governments, there has not been any progress of the land acquisition proceedings. On 8-6-1990, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Orissa intimated that the State Government have no intention to pursue this matter further. However, on 28-5-92, when he visited Balasore to witness the launch of Agni II, the Hon'ble CM agreed to re-examine the issue.

Since the land for the testing/evaluation facility has yet to be acquired, the question of sharing of expenditure on acquisition of land and maintenance of the facility thereon does not arise at this juncture.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 14018/1/92/D(Lands)]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 15(2), Para No. 2.48)

That the payment of service charge which is 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of the property tax leviable in respect of its properties owned by Ministry of Defence within the Cantonments should be brought at par with rates of which municipal bodies are entitled to receive service charges in respect of Govt. of India properties. Further, the payment of entitled gross amount service charge to Cantonment Boards should be made mandatory.

Action Taken

From 1982, Ministry of Defence have agreed to pay service charges to the Cantonment Boards at the rate of 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ % of the property tax that could be levied on Govt. properties falling within municipal limits. The arrears of service charges payable to Cantonment Boards upto 1991-92 work out to about Rs. 70.39 crores. However, due to financial constraints, only a part of this amount could be provided in the annual MES Budget and paid to the Boards. During 1991-92, a sum of Rs. 22.89 crores (including share of municipalities) was provided in the MES Budget, but due to severe resource crunch only Rs. 10.58 crores could be paid to the Cantonment Boards. During the current financial year Rs. 20.00 crores was provided in the sanctioned MES Budget (including share of municipalities) of which Rs. 4.87 crores could be paid to the Cantonment Boards, so far. Since November 1992, due to budgetary constraints, further payment of rates and taxes to Cantonment Boards in the current financial year have been kept pending. Hence, due to continuing financial constraints, it is not practicable to make payment of service charges to Cantonment Boards mandatory and to enhance the rates of service charges.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 10(26) 92-D(Q&C), dated 20.1.93]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 15(3), Para No. 2.48)

That the Ministry of Defence must enhance the grants-in-aid to the Cantonments.

Action Taken

The Central Govt. provides financial assistance to Cantonment Boards wherever necessary in the shape of grants-in-aid to balance their budgets. The sources of income of Cantonment Boards are limited as the bulk of the property is Govt. owned on which no tax is levied. Since Cantt. Boards do not have adequate resources to provide for civic amenities, grants-in-aid is given to Cantt. Boards for meeting their day-to-day expenditure subject to the availability of funds in the defence budget. The details of grants-in-aid provided to the Cantt. Boards during the last 3 years are given below:—

Sr. No.	Year	Grants-in-aid		Total (Rs. in crores)
		Ordinary	Special	
1.	1989-90	8.88	0.22	9.10
2.	1990-91	8.41	2.59	11.00
3.	1991-92	9.36	0.64	10.00

Even during the current financial year, grants-in-aid amounting to Rs. 9.00 crores could only be provided to Cantt. Boards as against a projected requirement of Rs. 20.00 crores (approx). Due to budgetary constraints, it has not been possible to enhance the amount of grants-in-aid. The prospects for increasing the grants-in-aid to the Cantonment Boards are remote in near future.

[Ministry of Defence O.M. No. 10(26)/92-D (Q&C), dated 20.1.93]

Recommendation (Sl. No. 22, Para No. 4.43)

To ensure compliance with the overall time limit prescribed under the Land Acquisition Act, 1894, the Committee desire the Ministry of Rural Development to closely liaise with the State Governments and impress upon those State Governments which have yet to specify time limits for completion of various processes of land acquisition work as per the consensus arrived at in the Land Acquisition Conference held in July, 1989. The Committee would like to be apprised of the outcome as the result of the efforts made by the Ministry in this regard.

Action Taken

Letters to those States from whom the reply has not been received so far or they have not specified the time limit for completion of acquisition work have been addressed.

[Ministry of Rural Development O.M. No. P. 11015/3/92-LRD, dated 25.9.92]

Action Taken

The Central Govt. provides financial assistance to Cantonment Boards wherever necessary in the shape of grants-in-aid to balance their budgets. The sources of income of Cantonment Boards are limited as the bulk of the property is Govt. owned on which no tax is levied. Since Cantt. Boards do not have adequate resources to provide for civic amenities, grants-in-aid is given to Cantt. Boards for meeting their day-to-day expenditure subject to the availability of funds in the defence budget. The details of grants-in-aid provided to the Cantt. Boards during the last 3 years are given below:—

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Action Taken

Letters to those States from whom the reply has not been received so far or they have not specified the time limit for completion of acquisition work have been addressed.

[Ministry of Rural Development O.M. No. P. 11015/3/92-LRD, dated 25.9.92]

APPENDIX

(Vide Introduction of the Report)

Analysis of Action Taken by Government on the 9th Report of Estimates Committee (10th Lok Sabha)

Total number of Recommendation 47

I. Recommendations/Observations which have been accepted by Government.

[Sl. Nos. 2, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15(4), 15(6), 15(7), 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 34 and 37]

Total	24
Percentage	51.07%

II. Recommendations/Observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of Government's replies.

[Sl. Nos. 1, 3, 4, 14, 15(1), 15(5), 15(8), 20, 23, 24, 25, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 39 and 40]

Total	18
Percentage	38.30%

III. Recommendations/Observations in respect of which Government's replies have not been accepted by the Committee.

[Sl. Nos. 6, 7, 15(2), 15(3), 22]

Total	5
Percentage	10.63%

IV. Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies are still awaited.

Total	NIL
Percentage	NIL

PART II MINUTES

Seventh Sitting 23.9.1993

The Committee sat from 1500 to 1620 hours.

PRESENT

Dr. Krupasindhu Bhoi — *Chairman*

MEMBERS

2. Shri P.K. Bansal
3. Shri Chhitubhai Gamit
4. Shri Parshuram Gangwar
5. Shri Barclal Jatav
6. Shri R. Jeevarathinam
7. Shri Dau Dayal Joshi
8. Shri Hannan Mollah
9. Shri Rupchand Pal
10. Shri Rajnath Sonkar Shastri
11. Shri Vishwanath Shastri
12. Shri Syed Shahabuddin
13. Shri K.D. Sultanpuri
14. Shri K. Suresh
15. Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy
16. Shri Arvind Trivedi
17. Shri Lacta Umbrey
18. Shri K.P. Reddaiah Yadav

SECRETARIAT

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Shri Murari Lal | — <i>Joint Secretary</i> |
| 2. Shri K.C. Dandona | — <i>Deputy Secretary</i> |
| 3. Shri K.L. Anand | — <i>Under Secretary</i> |
| 4. Shri S.B. Arora | — <i>Committee Officer</i> |

The Committee considered and adopted the Action Taken Report on Defence Lands and Land Use Policy subject to the amendments/modifications as reflected in the Annexure.

The Committee also authorised the Chairman to make other consequential changes arising out of factual verification by the respective Ministries and present the same to the House.

The Committee then adjourned.

**AMENDMENTS/MODIFICATIONS MADE BY THE ESTIMATES
COMMITTEE IN THE DRAFT ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON
DEFENCE LANDS AND LAND USE POLICY AT THEIR SITTING
HELD ON 23.9.1993**

<i>Page No.</i>	<i>Para No.</i>	<i>Line No.</i>	<i>For</i>	<i>Read</i>
3	1.3	—	For the existing paragraph <i>substitute</i> “The Committee find that the reply is silent about the amplification of the Maneuvers, Field Firing and Ar- tillery Practice Act, 1938. The Com- mittee feel that in view of the dif- ficulties/problems faced in the re- newal of notification as well as non- availability of land for requisition, the Ministry of Defence should ex- amine the desirability of amplifying the Act, keeping in view the long term needs and requirement.	
6	1.6	7	Test Range—Instrumental	Test Range.
6	1.7	6-9	<i>For</i> persuade.....months <i>read</i> “vigorouslly explore the question of availability of land for the aforesaid purpose. The principles and modalities of sharing the expenditure of establish- ing and utilising the multi purpose facilities at National Test Range should be worked out in advance.	
16	1.23	3	meted out—dealt with.	

**LIST OF AUTHORISED AGENTS FOR THE SALE OF LOK SABHA
SECRETARIAT PUBLICATIONS**

Sl. No.	Name of Agent	Sl. No.	Name of Agent
ANDHRA PRADESH		WEST BENGAL	
1.	M/s. Vijay Book Agency, 11-1-477, Mylargadda, Secunderabad-500361.	13.	M/s. Manimala, Buys & Sells, 123, Bow Bazar Street, Calcutta-1.
BIHAR		DELHI	
2.	M/s. Crown Book Depot, Upper Bazar, Ranchi (Bihar).	14.	M/s. Jain Book Agency, C-9, Connaught Place, New Delhi. (T. No. 351663 & 350806).
GUJARAT		15.	M/s. J. M. Jaina & Brothers, P. Box 1020, Mori Gate, Delhi- 110006. (T. No. 2915064 & 230936).
3.	The New Order Book Company, Ellis Bridge, Ahmedabad-380006. (T. No. 79065).	16.	M/s. Oxford Book & Stationery Co., Scindia House, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001. (T. No. 3315308 & 45896).
MADHYA PRADESH		17.	M/s. Bookwell, 2/72, Sant Niran- kari Colony, Kingsway Camp, Delhi-110009. (T. No. 7112309).
4.	Modern Book House, Shiv Vilas Palace, Indore City. (T. No. 35289).	18.	M/s. Rajendra Book Agency IV-DR59, Lajpat Nagar, Old, Double Storey, New Delhi- 110024. (T. No. 6412362 & 6412131).
MAHARASHTRA		19.	M/s. Ashok Book Agency, BH-82, Poorvi Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110033.
5.	M/s. Sunderdas Gian Chand, 601, Girgaum Road, Near Princes Street, Bombay-400002.	20.	M/s. Venus Enterprises, B-2/85, Phase-II, Ashok Vihar, Delhi.
6.	The International Book Service, Deccan Gymkhana, Poona-4.	21.	M/s. Central News Agency Pvt. Ltd., 23/90, Connaught Circus New Delhi-110001. (T. No. 344448, 322705, 344478 & 344508).
7.	The Current Book House, Maruti Lane, Raghunath Dadaji Street, Bombay-400001.	22.	M/s. Amrit Book Co. N-21, Connaught Circus, New Delhi.
8.	M/s. Usha Book Depot, 'Law Book Seller and Publishers' Agents Govt. Publications 585, Chira Bazar Khan House, Bombay-400002.	23.	M/s. Books India Corporation Publishers, Importers & Expor- ters, L-27, Shastri Nagar, Delhi-110052. (T. No. 269631 & 714465).
9.	M&J Services, Publishers, Repre- sentative Accounts & Law Book Sellers, Mohan Kunj, Ground Floor 68, Jyotiba Fuele Road, Nalgaum-Dadar, Bombay-400014.	24.	M/s. Sangam Book Depot, 4378/4B, Murari Lal Street, Ansari Road, Darya Ganj, New Delhi-110002.
10.	Subscribers Subscription Services India, 21, Raghunath Dadaji Street, 2nd Floor, Bombay-400001.		
TAMIL NADU			
11.	M/s. M. M. Subscription Agen- cies, 14th Murali Street, (1st floor) Mahalingapuram, Nungam- bakkam, Madras-600034. (T. No. 476558).		
UTTAR PRADESH			
12.	Law Publishers, Sardar Patel Marg, P. B. No. 77, Allahabad, U.P.		