

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1643
TO BE ANSWERED ON 03RD AUGUST, 2026

**EXPANSION OF TRAINING INSTITUTES AND CIVILIAN-
MILITARY ENGAGEMENT**

1643 SMT. SUDHA MURTY:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government, in view of the growing interest among youth to serve the nation, is considering setting up of an additional institute or campus on the lines of the National Defence Academy (NDA); and
- (b) the details of the ongoing civilian-military engagement initiatives in the Union Territory of Ladakh and whether there are plans to further expand these programs for local youth mentorship and community development?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI SANJAY SETH)

- (a) No.
- (b) The Indian Army is undertaking civil-military engagement initiatives in the Union Territory of Ladakh under 'Operation SADBHAVANA' with an aim to meet the aspirations of the local populace and community development. The works undertaken are planned and executed on a participative model involving the local community members/civil administration and are aligned with the ongoing Government schemes/initiatives including Vibrant Villages Programme (VVP) so as to optimally contribute towards nation building. Several projects have been initiated in the fields of education, infrastructure development, healthcare, skill development, women empowerment and sports activities. Operation SADBHAVANA is an ongoing initiative and the benefits to the local population have been expanding over the years.
