

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3711**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2019

**ACCIDENTAL DEATHS IN FIRING RANGE**

3711. SHRI NABA KUMAR SARANIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE j{k k ea=h  
be pleased to state:

- (a) the area of land in possession of the Ministry of Defence in various States of the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the monetary compensation to the people of Tamulpur Digtilipar village located in Baksa district of Assam for acquisition of their land has not been given and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of persons killed in firing range located at Tamulpur Patkijuli so far and whether any compensation has been given for the people who died and the amount of assistance paid to the people who got injured;
- (d) whether any provision has been made to check the recurrence of such incidents in the Tamulpur Patkijuli located firing range and if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether there is any proposal for revival of Army airport at the Baksa district and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the total number of Army regiment existing in the country including the details of their slogans and the location of their headquarters?

**A N S W E R**

MINISTER OF STATE  
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

रक्षा राज्य मंत्री

(SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

(श्री श्रीपाद नाईक)

- (a) Total area measuring 1757031.89 acres is in possession of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) all over country. The State /UT wise details of said land is enclosed as **Annexure**.

(b) As per Military Land Register maintained by DEO Tezpur, area measuring 53.021 acres (Private-2.066+1.266) +(Sarkari-49.689) under village Kalakuchi and Bilapar, District- Baksa (earlier Nalbari district) was acquired during the year 1987, 1991 & 1996 on payment of acquisition compensation to the DC concerned.

Further, Private land measuring 38.608 acres in District Baksa is held by the MoD under hiring. The rentals are being paid to the land owners through Civil Revenue Authority.

(c) As per details held, total number of civil persons killed and injured (since notification, i.e., last 53 years) of Field Firing range are as under:-

(a) Killed — 21.

(b) Injured— 19.

All the above cases of death/injury have been thoroughly investigated by the Army and it has been found that in all cases that accidents resulting in death/injury are because of civilians illegally entering the range during firing, without informing police, civil administration or army units. Therefore, the civilians are not liable to claim compensation.

All possible humanitarian assistance, however, is given by the Army to the injured/killed persons by means of first aid, shifting to the nearest hospital and assistance for conduct of last rites.

(d) As per Section Ten of Maneuvers, Field Firing and Artillery Practice Act, 1938, the responsibility for ensuring that no unauthorized persons enter the danger zone lies with civil administration. Being a notified field firing range the following measures are in place & strictly ensured by the Army:

(i) The civil administration and Police are informed about the firing schedule every Quarter (well in advance) in writing. In addition, units also intimate date and time of Firing practice to Police prior to commencement. Written intimation is also given to Gaonburahs of villages adjoining the range. Written clearances from Police Outpost at Darrangamela and Forest Range Officer, Kumarikata (Baksa District) are also obtained.

(ii) Announcements over Mega Phone warning locals about conduct of firing are made prior to commencement. Presence of Police representative during conduct of firing is ensured.

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(iii) Notice boards (written in English, Hindi, Assamese & Bodo language) warning public against entry into the firing range, have been erected at all prominent locations around the range, Red flags are placed during firing at important places indicating the boundary of area within which firing is taking place. Sentries are posted at all road/track junctions and Entry posts to prevent unauthorized entry of civilians/domestic animals.

(iv) No firing is permitted beyond the time intimated to the locals. No firing practices are carried out at night without intimation. All blinds/unexploded shells/ Ammunition are destroyed in-situ before vacating the range.

(e) No proposal has been received by DEO Tezpur regarding revival of Army Airport at Baksa.

(f) The total number of Army regiments existing in the country is 52.

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**ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3711 FOR ANSWER ON 11.12.2019  
REGARDING 'ACCIDENTAL DEATHS IN FIRING RANGE'.**

**State/UT-wise details of Defence land in the country**

Sr. No.	State/UT	Area (in acres)
1.	Andaman And Nicobar	8166.39
2.	Andhra Pradesh	39735.03
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	4787.39
4.	Assam	25493.31
5.	Bihar	11925.44
6.	Chandigarh	176.25
7.	Chattisgarh	1582.41
8.	Delhi	11628.55
9.	Goa	3025.58
10.	Gujarat	25002.94
11.	Haryana	37211.36
12.	Himachal Pradesh	8096.65
13.	Jammu And Kashmir	22338.51
14.	Jharkhand	7713.62
15.	Karnataka	33124.71
16.	Kerala	5279.40
17.	Lakshadweep	39.85
18.	Madhya Pradesh	231073.96
19.	Maharashtra	138833.55
20.	Manipur	1294.41
21.	Meghalaya	4029.74
22.	Mizoram	0.21
23.	Nagaland	551.28
24.	Orissa	18015.72
25.	Pondicherry	20.38
26.	Punjab	78327.40
27.	Rajasthan	821186.68
28.	Sikkim	3078.07
29.	Tamil Nadu	21202.01
30.	Tripura	2679.51
31.	Uttaranchal	27168.07
32.	Uttar Pradesh	123287.82
33.	West Bengal	40955.70
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1757031.89</b>

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