

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2749
TO BE ANSWERED ON 10th March, 2021

MERGER OF CANTONMENT BOARD

2749. SHRI KRUPAL BALAJI TUMANE:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE जेके एच
be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Defence department have sought suggestions from all 62 cantonment executive officers of the country regarding merger of cantonment board in Municipal Corporation by abolishing it;
- (b) if so, the number of suggestions received so far and the action taken thereon by the Government;
- (c) whether the Government has received recommendations of S.K. Bose Committee on working of cantonment and if so, the action taken by the Government thereon;
- (d) whether the Parliamentary Committee on Defence has sent any proposal or recommendations to the Government in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI SHRIPAD NAIK)

- (a) No, Sir.
- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) An Expert Committee on 'Working of Cantonment Boards' under the chairmanship of Shri Sumit Bose has submitted its report to the Ministry on 13.02.2019.

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No specific recommendations on merger of Cantonment Boards with municipalities has been given by the Expert Committee. However, based on the recommendations of the Committee on issues pertaining to working of Cantonment Boards, following actions have been taken:

- (i) Instructions have been issued to facilitate the civilian residents to carry out specific repairs to their buildings without seeking any permission.
- (ii) Construction of a WC/toilet in existing building, wherever it does not exist, within authorized tenements have been permitted.
- (iii) Instructions have been issued for constitution of three more Committees by Cantonment Boards i.e. the Finance Committee, the Education Committee and the Health & Environment Committee under section 48 (e) of the Cantonments Act, 2006 as recommended by the said Committee.
- (iv) Pursuant to the recommendations of the Expert Committee, an expert agency i.e. The Energy and Research Institute (TERI) has been engaged for framing of suitable FSI/FAR and Building Bye-laws for development of Civil areas of Cantonments.

(d) & (e): Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence (17th Lok Sabha) in its Fifth Report vide recommendation No.41 has stated that the proposal to convert civil areas of Cantonments into municipalities may be examined seriously, without compromising with military interest, civil aspirations and State Government's perspective.
