

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE  
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE  
**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1108**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2025

**CANTONMENT BOARDS**

1108. SHRI VARUN CHAUDHRY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Cantonment Boards in the country;
- (b) the area and population covered under these Cantonment Boards; and
- (c) the reasons for not holding elections in these Cantonment Boards and the timeline by which elections are likely to be held?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE  
IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(SHRI SANJAY SETH)

- (a) Presently, there are 61 Cantonment Boards in the country.
- (b) The total area of Defence Land is 17.81 lakh acres, out of which about 1.61 lakh acres is located within the Cantonments. The population in Cantonments is 20,78,854 as per 2011 Census.
- (c) In order to bring uniformity in municipal laws governing Cantonment areas and adjoining State municipalities, a proposal for excision of civil areas from the limits of select Cantonments and their merger with adjoining municipalities has been taken up with the concerned State Governments. Since the outcome of excision exercise may have a bearing on the governance structure of Cantonment Boards, elections to Cantonment Boards have not been conducted.

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