

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2249
TO BE ANSWERED ON 12TH DECEMBER, 2025

STATUS OF DEFENCE LAND

2249. SHRI PUSHPENDRA SAROJ:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total area of defence land currently lying unused, encroached or under litigation across the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has conducted any assessment of the impact of prolonged acquisition processes or eviction drives on affected rural communities, if so, the details thereof including findings therein;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to digitise defence land records and make them accessible under ongoing land governance or asset-monetisation initiatives and if so, the details thereof along with the timeline likely to be required for their implementation; and
- (d) whether the Government is considering the utilisation of surplus and non-operational defence land for public welfare infrastructure in land-scarce regions, while ensuring operational and security requirements and if so, the details thereof?

A N S W E R

MINISTER OF STATE

(SHRI SANJAY SETH)

IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

(a) The defence land is utilised for bona fide military purposes and to meet strategic, operational and security needs of the Armed Forces. Around 45906 acres of vacant defence land has been identified which is surplus to the requirements of the Armed Forces. The details of these lands have been circulated to the other Central Govt. Departments for ascertaining their requirements for these land pockets. State wise details of the same are enclosed as Annexure-A. Any other lands, which may appear unused are meant for training, mobilization practice, constructions as per Key Location Plans (KLP) and construction of Married Accommodation etc for the Armed Forces.

Out of around 18 lakh acres of defence land across the country, about 11152 acres is under encroachment. The State-wise details of encroached defence lands are enclosed as Annexure-B.

About 8113 acres of defence land is under litigation across the country. The State-Wise details are enclosed as Annexure-C.

(b) No such assessment has been carried out by Ministry of Defence. However, compensation and rehabilitation packages as applicable under the provisions of Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land, Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 are awarded to the landowners whenever private lands are acquired by MoD under said Act.

(c) The computerization of defence land records under the project 'Raksha Bhoomi' has been completed. Defence land records contained in the General Land Registers(GLRs) and Military Land registers(MLRs) have been entered in the software and the data is updated periodically. The data has been made accessible to the Service HQrs. In addition, all buildings under the Defence Estates Organisation including Cantonment Boards have been geo-tagged. The public access to defence land data is restricted due to security reasons.

(d) The available defence land is used for bona fide propose only and for strategic and operational needs of the Armed Forces. However, as per Ministry of Defence (MoD) letters dated 02.02.2016 and 21.10.2020, requests for transfer of defence land received from Government Departments for execution of public infrastructure/ utility projects are considered on merits after ascertaining that the defence land can be alienated without compromising the essential functions of the user Service or by making suitable alternative provisions to enable the user agency to carry on with its essential functions smoothly. The said transfer is considered on basis of exchange of equal value land or cash compensation or equal value infrastructure.

ANNEXURE –A REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2249 FOR ANSWER ON 12.12.2025 REGARDING “STATUS OF DEFENCE LAND”

Sr No.	State / UT	Area (in acre)
1	Andhra Pradesh	641.2100
2	Assam	320.1800
3	Bihar	1533.0159
4	Chhattisgarh	472.4900
5	Delhi	817.5083
6	Diu	123.00
7	Gujarat	353.7120
8	Haryana	833.9876
9	Himachal Pradesh	2381.7004
10	Jharkhand	536.3600
11	Karnataka	513.5725
12	Kerala	4.5031
13	Madhya Pradesh	566.4462
14	Maharashtra	6781.3462
15	Meghalaya	25.8564
16	Punjab	1714.9312
17	Rajasthan	2091.6018
18	Tamil Nadu	495.6841
19	Telanagana	126.0716
20	Uttar Pradesh	8840.6989
21	Uttarakhand	8693.5730
22	UT of J&K	877.9804
23	West Bengal	2060.5872
	Total	45906.0168

ANNEXURE –B REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2249 FOR ANSWER ON 12.12.2025 REGARDING “STATUS OF DEFENCE LAND”

Sr No.	State / UT	Area (in acre)
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	21.348
2	Andhra Pradesh	57.6665
3	Arunachal	77.665
4	Assam	726.2104
5	Bihar	527.618
6	Chhattisgarh	75.9
7	Delhi	158.3715
8	Goa	5.1166
9	Gujarat	247.2109
10	Haryana	790.8894
11	Himachal Pradesh	61.1119
12	Jharkhand	302.022
13	Karnataka	167.9166
14	Kerala	1.717
15	Lakshadweep	0.08
16	Madhya Pradesh	1733.206
17	Maharashtra	984.9204
18	Manipur	5.6478
19	Meghalaya	13.3402
20	Mizoram	0.003
21	Nagaland	356.1
22	Odisha	0.615
23	Punjab	449.458193
24	Rajasthan	443.0685

25	Sikkim	64.844
26	Tamil Nadu	202.451
27	Telanagana	96.1939
28	Uttar Pradesh	1639.334922
29	Uttarakhand	56.7006
30	UT of J&K	311.8692
31	UT of Ladakh	29.581
32	West Bengal	1543.78121
	Total	11152.15873

ANNEXURE –C REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2249 FOR ANSWER ON 12.12.2025 REGARDING “ STATUS OF DEFENCE LAND ”

Sr No.	State / UT	Total
1	Arunachal	1641.62
2	Assam	47.271
3	Bihar	0.32
4	Chhattisgarh	0
5	Delhi	152.76
6	Goa	9.47
7	Gujarat	428.82
8	Haryana	580.4
9	Himachal Pradesh	1.48
10	Jharkhand	5.26
11	Karnataka	141.438099
12	Kerala	0.05
13	Madhya Pradesh	112.9462
14	Maharashtra	564.3072
15	Manipur	1.57
16	Meghalaya	19.9535
17	Mizoram	3.102
18	Nagaland	197.82
19	Odisha	0.114
20	Punjab	104.75877
21	Rajasthan	355.4695
22	Sikkim	0.73
23	Tamil Nadu	66.245
24	Telanagana	422.7629
25	Tripura	0.74

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26	Uttar Pradesh	1296.742
27	Uttarakhand	727.2854
28	UT of J&K	930.3679
29	UT of Chandigarh	2.048
30	West Bengal	297.1968
	Total	8113.0427
