

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4419
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2014
FIRING RANGES
Gandhi Shri Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the criteria / norms for setting up and expansion of firing ranges in the border areas of the country;
- (b) whether consultations with villages, revenue officers of the concerned States and other authorities are carried out for the purpose and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the civilian population affected as a result of such firing ranges are provided adequate compensation and rehabilitated as per the existing policy, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the said norms have not been complied in case of Ahmednagar firing range, if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether the Government has received complaints regarding a road being closed for the general public causing inconvenience to people residing Ahmednagar Cantonment area, if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

- (a) Field Firing Ranges (FFRs) are set up / expanded based on training needs of the Indian Army.
- (b) Cases for acquisition of land for FFRs are processed in consultation with local administrative authorities.
- (c) Whenever land is acquired, the displaced population is rehabilitated and adequate compensation is paid as per existing policy. Clearance and no objection certificate are obtained from the revenue officials of the concerned State Government as per the land acquisition law.
- (d) No, Madam. Land at Ahmednagar FFR has been acquired / hired / notified in compliance with all existing policies / norms / regulations.
- (e) The complaint is that the Local Military Authority is not allowing vehicles to go through a road in the cantonment area. The said road is a military road on defence land and a semi-permanent barrier has been erected to stop movement of heavy vehicles. The heavy vehicles however, are permitted to ply on the road on occasions based on requirement.