

(b) Details of 125 pending cases of settlement of rent are given in the Statement (See below). Settlement of these cases involves various agencies including the State Government authorities. Continuous liaison is made with the State Government authorities for expeditious settlement of the cases. As different agencies and procedural issues are involved, it is difficult to fix a definite time-frame in which the cases can be resolved.

Details of 125 Pending Cases of Settlement of Rent

Sl. No.	District	Number of Cases
1.	Anantnag	17
2.	Budgam	17
3.	Ganderbal	7
4.	Pulwama	10
5.	Shopian	2
6.	Srinagar	4
7.	Kulgam	1
8.	Bandipora	7
9.	Baramulla	28
10.	Kupwara	32
TOTAL:		125

Holding up of purchase of ULH Artillery guns from USA

*192 DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has held up the purchase of 145 Ultra Light Howitzer (ULH) artillery guns from the USA;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor along with the details of technical parameters, cost effectiveness and economic viability of the guns; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government to enhance the fire power of armed forces, especially in mountain regions?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Government is uthe procurement of 145 Ultra Light Howitzers through the Foreign Military Sales (FMS) route as per Defene Procurement Procedure.

(c) The Upgradation / modernization of the Artillery is being undertaken as per road map laid down in Artillery Profile 2027, which envisages induction of long range guns and rockets with adequate firepower for the mountain regions.

Mismanagement of defence lands

*193 DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of unauthorised use of defence lands for golf, parks, clubs, hotels, etc., poor management of leases and huge variation of records across the country, if so, the facts and details thereof;

(b) whether the various defence authorities have failed to set things right on the land management front; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government to fix responsibility on various defence authorities who are mismanaging defence lands?

THE MINISTER Of DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (c) Four Golf courses are runing on defence land leased in terms of the statute and rules for leasing of defence land. Key Location Plan (KLP) authorises open spaces and play field in a military station / cantonment. These open spaces and playfields help in maintaining the ecological balance of the area as well as in training of troops. Many sporting activities including golf are undertaen on these open spaces. Defence land is also used for parks, clubs and institutes for recreational purposes of the defence personnel and residents of cantonment areas. There is also a policy for leasing of defence land in cantonments for Hotel purposes. Details of land used for playing golf, parks, clubs and hotels are not maintained centrally.