

**NCC training in schools and colleges**

198. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government will make NCC training for schools and colleges compulsory by providing facilities universally; and

(b) if not, whether Government would provide the facilities to private schools and colleges without demanding charges from the management and students who are willing to get the training as National obligation for imparting nationalism and patriotism?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) NCC training is entirely a voluntary programme and it is upto the schools and colleges to opt for it. There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government to make NCC training compulsory in schools and colleges by providing facilities universally.

(b) The Government has been providing NCC facilities to private schools and colleges without demanding charges taking into account the sanctioned strength and available infrastructure.

**Illegal occupation of defence land**

199. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that large portions of land under authority of the Ministry have been illegally occupied;

(b) if so, the list of the complaints received for the same and action taken against the same during last three years, complaint-wise;

(c) whether the Ministry has a comprehensive data bank of the total land under its authority across the country;

(d) the total area of existing land under control of the Ministry, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by Ministry to make more productive use of unused land under its control?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Defence has received reports from the land management agencies under it, of about approximately 10126 acres of defence land being under encroachment. This is around 0.58% of the total land holding of Ministry of Defence. Reports and complaints on the subject are received from time to time but no centralized record of such complaints is maintained by the Ministry. Action against encroachment is