



Ministry
of Defence

Ref: FOI2014/05392

Defence Business Services

██████████ DBS Secretariat
Room F10
Innsworth House
Imjin Barracks
Gloucester
GL3 1HW

E-mail: DBSRES-Secretariat@mod.uk

██████████
Email: ██████████
██████████

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Thank you for your e-mail of 18 June which I have treated as a request under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You requested the following information:

"How many (a) military (b) civilian staff in the Ministry of Defence are proficient in i) Tamil ii) Punjabi, iii) Pashto, iv) Burmese v) Bahasa Melayu/Malaysia, vi) Bahasa Indonesia, vii) Mandarin Chinese, viii) Korean and ix) Japanese"

I can confirm that a search for the requested information has been undertaken and some information within the scope of your request has been found.

The data held on military personnel is in Table 1 (Annexe A) and the data held on civilian personnel is in Table 2 (Annexe B).

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, 1st Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <http://www.ico.gov.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

██████████ DBS Secretariat

Table 2 – Core MOD Civilian Employees Proficiency

		Punjabi	Pashto	Malaysia	Indonesia	Mandarin Chinese	Korean	Japanese
Speaking Proficiency	High	47	1	0	1	6	0	3
	Moderate	15	2	3	1	8	0	7
	Low	6	1	5	1	3	1	2
Reading Proficiency	High	14	1	0	1	9	0	1
	Moderate	11	3	3	0	2	0	7
	Low	13	0	5	2	5	0	5
Writing Proficiency	High	10	1	0	0	7	0	0
	Moderate	11	2	2	1	3	0	8
	Low	10	0	5	2	6	0	5
Listening Proficiency	High	52	1	0	0	6	0	4
	Moderate	12	3	2	2	8	0	5
	Low	2	0	5	1	3	1	2

Notes:

1. There is no facility to record Tamil or Burmese on the Human Resource Management System (HRMS).
2. HRMS allows individuals to record language proficiencies based on Speaking, Reading, Listening and Writing at high, moderate and low levels of proficiency. Language proficiency is a self-service field and the data recorded reflects this.
3. The MOD Trading Funds (Defence Science and Technology Laboratory, United Kingdom, Hydrographic Office) have delegated authority over pay and personnel issues and information about their civilian staff would have to be sought direct from them.

Table 1 Military Personnel Proficiency

Tamil	2
Punjabi	0
Pashto	0
Burmese	0
Bahasa Melayu	0
Bahasa Malaysia	0
Bahasa Indonesia	0
Mandarin Chinese	0
Korean	2
Japanese	10