

**Question No: 131**

**Question: Firearm Regulations**

**Date:** 11/08/92  
**Member:** Mr COLLINS  
**To:** CHIEF MINISTER

1. How many licensed shooters are there in the Northern Territory.
2. How many convictions have there been for indiscriminate shooting on vacant Crown land for the following years -
  - (a) 1988;
  - (b) 1989;
  - (c) 1990;
  - (d) 1991; and
  - (e) 1992 to date.

**ANSWER**

1. Approximately 18 500.
2. Under the present legislation -
  - (i) there is no offence of 'indiscriminate shooting on vacant Crown land';
  - (ii) police have never had a need to distinguish between offences which could be classified as 'indiscriminate shooting' offences (eg Dangerous Act, Assault, Shooting to Endanger, Frighten or Annoy etc) in terms of whether they are committed on private property, vacant Crown land or other areas. Consequently, no such statistical data is available;
  - (iii) the only offence for which vacant Crown land is specifically an issue is section 94 which states -
    - (1) No person shall discharge a firearm on land (vacant Crown land excepted) owned or occupied by another person.'

Obviously once it was established that a person was on vacant Crown land at the time of discharging a firearm, no prosecution would ensue.