

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3493
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2000
USE OF MUSCLE POWER IN ELECTIONS
MADHAVRAO SCINDIA;SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to prevent use and show of arms and weapons during elections;
- (b) whether any amendments have been or are being made to prevent such use or show of arms to disrupt free and fair elections; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS

(SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a), (b) & (c) The Election Commission of India has informed that it issues instructions from time to time to the State Governments for putting restrictions on possession of arms during the period commencing with the date of announcement of election till the completion of the elections. These instructions have been recently further modified in the light of observations of the Supreme Court of India in C.A. No.4298 of 1994 providing that prohibitory orders may be passed by the District Magistrate under section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure where he considers it necessary so to do.