

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5086

ANSWERED ON:05.09.2011

SALE OF ARMY PLOT

Khair Shri Chandrakant Bhaurao;Mishra Shri Govind Prasad

**Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether a prime army plot in Kandivali-Malad, Mumbai has been sold to a private builder in the recent past by the Central Ordnance Depot;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the land was sold despite objections from the army and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether the Southern Command has sought an inquiry into the matter and if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (c): As reported by Director General of Defence Estates, 13.28 Acres of State Government land in village Akruli was held on hire by Army since long. In 2007, Collector, Mumbai Suburban Distt., allotted 5166.50 Sq. Mtrs of land adjacent to Central Ordnance Depot (COD) to M/s Neo Pharma Ltd. after receiving its market value. This was objected to by COD and Defence Estates Officer (DEO) on the grounds that this formed part of Defence land on hire. Collector was also informed that COD will not permit any agency to take possession of Defence Land without approval of the Ministry of Defence. However, their objections were overruled by the Collector. COD persisted with its objections and resisted handing over possession of the said land. Subsequently, at the direction of the Headquarters, Southern Command, Neo Pharma was permitted to go ahead with the planned development of the plot.

(d) Government has asked Army Headquarters (AHQ) to ascertain either by holding a Court of Inquiry or otherwise as to how Head Quarters Southern Command relinquished claim on the said land and a report in the matter is awaited.