

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:566

ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012

AMENDMENT OF DEFENCE ACT

Annayyagari Shri Sai Prathap;Majhi Shri Pradeep Kumar;Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai

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

(a) whether the Government has taken a decision on removing restrictions on construction activities around vital defence installations like ordnance depots, radar stations and communication units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to amend the Works of Defence Act, 1903 in this regard and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether it has been observed that the provisions of the existing Act have become painful for the civilians living close to the defence installations in various parts of the country and if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard;

(e) whether before finalisation of amendments, the Government proposes to obtain and consider the views of various stakeholders in the matter; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (f): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 566 FOR ANSWER ON 13.8.2012

(a) No, Madam.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c), (e) & (f): Yes, Madam. The process of bringing an amendment to the Works of Defence Act, 1903 has been initiated. Amendments to the Act will be carried out following the laid down procedures.

(d) By the provisions of the Works of Defence Act 1903, certain restrictions are placed on land owners towards enjoyment of the land. This, however, is for the national interest of safeguarding the defence installations. Moreover, the land owners are entitled to suitable compensation for the same.