

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
DEFENCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:593  
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012  
DELAY IN CLEARANCE TO OIL AND GAS BLOCKS  
Naik Dr. Sanjeev Ganesh;Patil Shri Sanjay Dina

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

- (a) whether his Ministry has withheld clearance to several oil and gas blocks put up for exploration under the New Exploration Licensing policy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the time by which clearances are likely to be given to the projects?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (c): 46 blocks (38 on the East Coast and 08 on the West Coast) have not been cleared from Defence Security angle on account of overlapping with DRDO missile firing range in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh, Indian Air Force Firing Range, Naval Base area and Naval Exercise Area.