

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:3
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2013
ALLOTMENT OF DEFENCE LAND
Devi Aswamedh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the defence land under illegal possession or encroachment and the steps taken by the Government for removal of the encroachments;
- (b) whether the Government has handed over 4.84 acres land in Jodhpur, reserved for Army, to private developers;
- (c) if so, the details thereof including the basis on which the said land has been handed over to the private developers;
- (d) whether any inquiry has been conducted into the matter; and
- (e) if so, the details of the outcome thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 3 FOR ANSWER ON 5.8.2013

(a) About 12364 acres of Defence land (as on 3.9.2012) is under encroachment. Action for removal of encroachment is taken under the provisions of Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 as well as under the Cantonments Act, 2006. Detailed instructions emphasizing the need for ensuring vigilance, detection and prevention of new encroachments have been issued by the Ministry.

(b) to (e): Defence land at Jodhpur measuring 4.84 acres was handed over to the Major Maharaja Hari Singh Charitable Trust (MMHSCT) by the Local Military Authorities on 23.08.2007. Enquiry by Army authorities have prima facie revealed that Army Officers at Jodhpur allegedly in collusion with Defence Estates Officials illegally transferred above Defence land to benefit Major Maharaja Hari Singh Charitable Trust. The matter has, therefore, been referred to Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for further investigation. CBI has filed a Preliminary Enquiry (PE) in the case on 14.5.2013.