

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:982

ANSWERED ON:12.08.2013

UNAUTHORISED USE OF DEFENCE ASSETS

Acharia Shri Basudeb;Haque Shri Sk. Saidul;Roy Shri Mahendra Kumar

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an unauthorized use of Defence assets and manpower for the benefit of non-governmental agencies like Army Welfare Education Society (AWES) in Pune;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Military Branch of Integrated HQ of the Ministry of Defence (Army) irregularly posted nine Army Officers to run private professional institutes of the Army Welfare Education Society (AWES);

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the details of the action has been taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

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

(a) & (b) Army Welfare Education Society (AWES) is a registered society under the Society Registration Act which runs schools/institutes for wards of Army personnel. These schools are authorized in scales of accommodation for Defence Services. Although no service manpower is to be employed in these institutes, a number of officers have been deployed in various AWES institutions since December 2005 on posting by MS Branch, AHQ.

(c) & (d) During a test audit by PCDA (O), Pune, assignment of nine officers to Army Welfare Education Society (AWES) institutions was objected to and it was stated by them that charging salaries of such Officers to Defence Services Estimates was irregular and needs to be recovered from AWES.

(e) As a corrective measure, MS Branch, AHQ has decided in July, 2012 to discontinue assignment of Officers to AWES institutions and AWES has deposited Rs.1,55,98,541/- in Government Treasury through MRO to settle the said Audit Objection in June, 2013.