

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:217

ANSWERED ON:22.07.2014

AFSP ACT

Jayadevan Shri C. N.;Meinya Dr. Thokchom

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the salient features of the Armed Forces Special Powers (AFSP) Act;
- (b) whether there have been demands from some States to repeal the said Act;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to review the AFSP Act, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to address the concerns raised by some States on the AFSP Act?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

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

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 217 FOR 22.7.2014.

(a) : The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act enables certain special powers to be conferred upon members of the armed forces in the areas declared as disturbed under the said Act.

(b) & (c): Representations have been received from time to time from different organizations/NGO from Manipur for withdrawal and also from the State Government of J&K for phased withdrawal of the Armed Forces Special Power Act.

(d): At present there is no such proposal. If the situation so warrants that areas be declared as disturbed, the same is done. This is examined/assessed periodically.

(e): For preventing misuse of powers under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, guidelines containing 'Do's & Don't's' for the Armed Forces deployed in Counter Insurgency Operations have been issued as per the directions of Supreme Court in the matter of Naga People's Movement of Human Rights versus Union of India. Violation of these guidelines by members of the Armed Forces make them liable for prosecution under the Army Act and the respective Acts of the Central Armed Police Forces. The Chief of Army Staff has issued 'Ten Commandments' to the troops deployed in Counter Insurgency Operations to guide them while conducting the operations. The Human Rights Cell established at various levels of Army and the Central Armed Police Forces regularly monitor complaints on human rights violations, by the members of the Armed Forces. The troops are sensitized at regular intervals regarding the importance of upholding Human Rights. The guidelines are strictly adhered to.