

(9-A)

Most Immediate  
Parliament Matter  
No. 705/17/L/DE/96  
Government of India,  
Ministry of Defence,  
Dte Gen of Def Estates,  
West Block IV R K Puram,  
New Delhi -110 065,

13 Sept, 1996

To,

The Director, DE  
Central/Eastern/Western/Southern/Northern Command  
Lucknow/Calcutta/Chandigarh/Pune/Jammu.

Subject : ILLEGAL OCCUPATION OF DEFENCE LAND.

The Standing Committee on Defence (1996-97) had taken evidence of the Ministry of Defence on 14.8.1996. One of the subjects covered in their report is of illegal occupation of defence land. On this subject the Committee have reported as follows :-

"63. The Committee were informed that presently about 6,903 acres of land owned by the Ministry of Defence were under illegal occupation of various persons. During evidence, a representative of the Ministry stated that most of the cases of illegal occupation were presently under litigation. The Defence Secretary stated that the problem was more in the cantonments and in the urbanised areas."


"64. The Committee desire that all cases of illegal occupation of land belonging to the Ministry of Defence should be vigorously pursued to their logical conclusions. The Ministry should also take effective steps to strengthen their vigilance and check such encroachments. Special vigilance should be kept in urban areas where the land prices obviously are considerably high."

Contd..2..

2. The Ministry of Defence has asked this Directorate General to initiate immediate action based on the above recommendations of the Committee. The need for vigorous and systematic action for removal of encroachments has been repeatedly emphasized in the past also. All the DEOs and CEOs are hereby required to progress the proceedings under PPE Act, 1971 for removal of encroachments on defence lands and to complete the action for actual removal and recovery of damages. The periodic progress in this regard should be reflected in the monthly/quarterly report being forwarded to this Directorate General. In view of the recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Parliament there is great urgency for expeditious action for removal of encroachments on defence lands.

3. Effective steps are also called for to detect and prevent fresh encroachments. This can be ensured only by regular inspections and constant vigil on the part of the DEOs and CEOs. One of the important steps should be to identify those lands which are more prone to encroachment and to keep special watch over such pockets of defence lands and also to explore all possibilities of bringing such pockets of land into active use as early as possible. Wherever possible fencing of lands which are located near the civil areas/abadi areas should also be considered.

4. Necessary instructions on the above lines may be issued to the DEOs and CEOs in your jurisdiction to take immediate action on the subject and to forward periodic reports about the progress achieved in this regard. The first such report may please be sent by 31st Oct, 1996.



(RP Sehgal)  
Director General  
Defence Estates

Copy to :

All DEOs

All CEOs