

(b) if so, whether the Ministry would consider seriously to absorb, at least 20,000 qualified youth within the required number of battalions in the army?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) The situation in Jammu and Kashmir has shown a perceptible improvement in terms of all parameters of terrorist violence. However, there is continuous attempt of infiltration.

(b) As per the extant policy for induction of Other Ranks, vacancies are allocated based on the Recruitable Male Population of the State. Recruitment into Army from the State of Jammu and Kashmir is being done on a regular basis.

**Construction activity around Defence installations**

41. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken a decision on removing restrictions on constructions around vital Defence installations like Ordnance Depots, Radar stations and communication units;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has also initiated process of bringing an amendment to this effect; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The process of bringing an amendment to the Works of Defence Act, 1903 has been initiated.

**Allowing training of Sri Lankan Air Force personnel in Tamil Nadu**

42. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had allowed Sri Lankan Air Force personnel to undergo training in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is aware that this amounts to betrayed of ethnic Tamils in Sri Lanka and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and various political parties in the State had opposed this action; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?