

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:940
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2005
SEIZURE OF ARMS AND AMMUNITION
Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a huge quantity of arms and ammunition was found in a container at kidderpore Dock godown in September, 2005;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether a truck loaded with AK-47 ammunition was also found parked at Calcutta port in September 2003;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) the action taken by the Government against the persons involved therein; and
- (f) the steps taken to check the recurrence of such incidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY)

(a) & (b): On 30th August, 2005, a Honduras ship was detained by the Customs authorities at Kolkata Port. As per cargo manifest, the consignment contained fuse for ammunition - 20 MM (200 pieces), fuse for ammunition - 76 MM (200 pieces), fuse for mortar shell (80 pieces), rounds of ammunition - 30 MM (4200 pieces) and ammunition for Bofors 40 MM (6519 pieces). On 31st August, 2005, the cargo was jointly inspected by Navy and Army and the authenticity of the manifested cargo destined for Indonesia was found to be correct. The ship was allowed to sail for Indonesia on 25th September, 2005 escorted by the Ships of Indian Navy after Customs authorities had received a confirmation from the Embassy of India at Jakarta that the consignment was meant for the Indonesian Navy.

(c) & (d): On 3rd September, 2003, Kolkata Police recovered 25,485 rounds of 7.62 calibre ammunition of AK-47 Assault Rifles from a truck from a parking lot in Dhobitalab area, Garden Reach, Kolkata (Port area).

(e) Six persons were arrested and the ammunition seized. They have been charge-sheeted by the Kolkata Police under Section 25/26 of the Arms Act.

(f): Security agencies maintain necessary vigil and take adequate measures to check such incidents.