

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1976
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2006
JOINT INTERROGATION OF ARRESTED PERSONS
Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government has recently held talks with Myanmar for holding a joint interrogation of persons arrested on charges of drugs and arms smuggling;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the matter relating to the activities of insurgents and hostile elements was also discussed; and
- (d) if so, the outcome thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) Yes. Joint interrogation of insurgents arrested at the India Myanmar border was discussed during the 11th National Level Talks held in Yangon on 13-17 October, 2005 between the Home Secretary, Government of India, and the Deputy Minister for Home Affairs, Union of Myanmar.

(b), (c) & (d) The Myanmar side agreed to the suggestion made by the Indian side for providing facilities for a joint interrogation and consular access to Indian insurgents apprehended by Myanmar. The Myanmar side reaffirmed their Government's commitment not to allow arms smugglers to use their territory for transportation of arms and ammunition to India and agreed to take suitable action against them. Both sides also agreed to furnish details of Myanmar and Indian nationals arrested in India and Myanmar on drug related charges immediately after their arrest so that follow-up action is taken in Myanmar and India simultaneously.