

**Banning Tobacco Advertisement**

3443. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has consulted any media specialists to analyse the relation between the efficacy of banning tobacco advertisements and the quantum of tobacco consumed in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome of the analysis?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The Ministry has examined the experience of some countries like Canada, Australia, Singapore etc., which have imposed restrictions on tobacco advertisements and it has been noted that this has led to considerable decline in tobacco consumption.

**NSCN Activities**

3444. SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA:  
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'NSCN getting arms from Thailand' appearing in the Statesman dated September 15, 1993;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government have taken up the matter with the Governments of Thailand and Bangladesh; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The news item made the following points in the main:

1. Procurement & transport of arms and ammunition from Thailand to NSCN bases in Bangladesh.
2. Mobilisation of resources for procurement of sophisticated weapons.
3. Presence of a foreign command in Bangkok to help NSCN.
4. Visit by ULFA & NSCN leaders to Bangkok.
5. Arrest of Khalistani militants in Bangkok.
6. Forcible collection of taxes as a part of NSCN's all out offensive against "occupation forces".
7. Maintenance by NSCN of a standing Naga Army for many years.

(c) and (d) The matter has been taken up at a high level with the Bangladesh Government. It has been agreed to set up an institutional mechanism to regularly review and monitor security related issues with a view to finding appropriate solutions. As regards Thailand, a draft Extradition Treaty has been proposed.