

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:98

ANSWERED ON:20.02.2001

PURULIA ARMSDROP CASE

A. VENKATESH NAIK;ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have failed to trace the main culprits of Purulia armsdrop case, till date;
- (b) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to apprehend the main culprits behind the armsdrop case?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)&(b): The Central Bureau of Investigation, which has been entrusted with the investigation of the Purulia Arms Drop Case, has intimated that CBI chargesheeted 14 persons in connection with the case. Out of them, 7 persons were arrested by CBI. Six of the arrested persons were convicted by the trial Court at Calcutta and one person was acquitted due to inadequate evidence. The 7 absconding persons have been declared as Proclaimed Offenders by the Court.

(c): On the request of CBI, Interpol Headquarters have issued Red Corner Notices against the three of the absconding accused and worldwide alert has been sounded. A cash reward of Rs. 1 lakh on each accused has been announced for information leading to arrest of the accused persons. A number of raids have been conducted during the past five years at various places in India to trace the accused. Massive publicity in print media and television have been made to trace them. Various searches and surveillance operations have been carried out in several countries also.