

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4970
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2003
WEAPONS RECOVERED BY ARMY
ANANTRAO GUDHE

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of weapons recovered/seized by the army from different parts of the country during 2002-2003, till date;
- (b) the mode adopted by the Government for their use/disposal; and
- (c) the steps taken to ensure proper control of these weapons and to check their misuse?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENCE PRODUCTION & SUPPLIES (PROF. CHAMAN LAL GUPTA)

(a) According to the information available in the Army HQrs., the number of weapons recovered/seized in Counter Insurgency Operations by the Army and the forces under their operational control in the States of Jammu & Kashmir and the North East during 2002-2003 are as under:-

- (i) J&K 2533 weapons.
- (ii) North East 974 weapons.

(b) According to the provisions of Law, arms ammunition or explosives seized are to be handed over to the Police. However, in August 2001, the Supreme Court had ruled that the seized weapons/ammunition may be kept in the custody of the Army on behalf of the Police but the same shall be produced by the Army Authorities in the Court of Law if so required. On finalisation of the case, weapons are used/disposed off according to the relevant instructions by sale/allotment to various authorized agencies/individuals, including service personnel.

(c) Adequate measures are taken to ensure proper accounting of weapons seized/recovered from terrorists by way of preparation of a `Seizure Memo` and `history sheets` for each weapon. Strict accounting procedures are followed and frequent checks are also carried out for stock weapons.