

**Smuggling of Arms in Noth-Eastern Region**

2230. SHRIMATI SARADA TADIPARTHI :  
SHRI P. SHANMUGAM :  
SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA :  
SHRI SYDAIAH KOTA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the surplus arms of Khmer Rouge are being supplied illegally to the militants of the North-Eastern States of India ;

(b) if so, whether it has been examined the manner in which these arms are routed into India; and

(c) the steps taken to stop the entry of these arms into the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) to (c) While there are no confirmed reports about militants of the North Eastern States procuring arms from the Khmer Rouge, they are known to be procuring arms from the Ranong coast of Thailand where arms belonging to several ethnic groups in South East Asia are comparatively easy to procure. The possibility of some of these arms belonging to the Khmer Rouge cannot, however, be ruled out. In the past arms and ammunition clandestinely procured through sources in Thailand were brought by ships in small consignment to areas in Bangladesh and then transported overland into North Eastern States. Government have taken up our security concerns, including the procurement of arms and ammunition clandestinely, with the Governments of Thailand and Bangladesh.

**Relief to Victims of Fire Incidents**

2231. SHRI MANGAL RAM PREMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the incidents of snatching of gold chains and looting the cash from the victims of Uphaar fire tragedy have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government have ordered any enquiry into these allegations and identified police personnels responsible for the inhuman act ;

(c) whether the Government have issued 'Death certificates' to the relatives of all the persons who died in the incident ; and

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard for the expeditious issuance of death certificates ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) As per the report received from Delhi Police, no such complaint was lodged with them.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected from the local authorities concerned and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Subsidy for Purchasing Small Tractors to Farmers**

2232. SHRI MURALIDHAR JENA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the requisite or adequate subsidy/financial assistance is being given to the farmers for purchasing small tractors under the centrally sponsored programme launched by the Government ;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise ;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ;

(d) whether the Government have received any request from the State Governments for providing adequate subsidy for this purpose ;

(e) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(f) whether the Government have conducted any survey in this regard ; and

(g) if so, the remedial measures taken/proposed to be taken to enable the farmers to purchase at least the small tractors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among Small Farmers', subsidy @ 30%, limited to Rs. 30,000/- is given to the farmers, their groups, Registered Co-operative Societies, Agricultural Credit Societies, Multi-purpose Agricultural Farming Societies for the purchase of tractors upto 30 P.T.O. HP; along with matching implements not exceeding three in number. During the 8th Five Year Plan, funds to the tune of Rs. 3772.80 lakh were released to the States/UTs, under the Scheme, for subsidising 12576 no. of tractors. A provision of Rs. 16.00 crore has been made, under the Scheme, during 1997-98, for subsidising 5333 nos. of tractors. A Statement-I showing the funds released to the States under the Scheme, during the 8th Plan ; and funds allocated to them for the year 1997-98, is attached.

(d) to (g) During 1996-97, as many as 12 States/UT Govts. had requested for the release of additional funds to the tune of Rs. 1493.60 lakh. However, owing to limited budgetary provisions under the Scheme, additional funds amounting to Rs. 425.50 lakh only, could be released. The details are at given in the attached Statement-II. Taking into account all factors, including budgetary constraints, sufficient funds have been provided for this Scheme.