

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6334

ANSWERED ON:06.05.2005

INTERNATIONAL CARGO CONTAINERS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Nahata Smt. P. Jaya Prada;Singh Shri Rajiv Ranjan (Lalan);Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether International Cargo Containers imported from Dubai were smuggled out of the Kochi Port in the recent past;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government has made any investigation into the matter;
- (d) if so, the findings thereof; and
- (e) the action taken against the persons
- (f) found guilty for such lapses?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI. S. S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b),(c) & (d) DRI Regional Unit Cochin have recently detected a case where three containers of imported goods, one imported from Dubai and two from China have been cleared without following the proper Customs procedure and without payment of appropriate duty. Evidence collected, so far, indicates that at least one document - container cell certificate, covering the movement of the containers from the Port area had been tampered with. Investigations revealed that the containers taken out without payment of appropriate duties contained compact fluorescent lamps, dry cell batteries and floor tiles of Chinese origin.

(e) Two persons have been arrested in this case and two officers of the department have been placed under suspension.