

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HOME AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:996

ANSWERED ON:01.03.2011

INSURGENCY IN NORTH EAST

Bapurao Shri Khatgaonkar Patil Bhaskarrao;Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Rani Killi Krupa;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there are reports of efforts being made by insurgent groups in the North East trying to procure weapons from neighbouring countries including Bangladesh and China;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether there are reports of sophisticated weapons being offered by foreign armed dealers from China to such insurgents including surface to air missiles;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to check the activities of such insurgents groups and to take up the availability of sophisticated weapons to them with neighbouring countries at the bilateral level?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) to (e): There are no specific reports to suggest that rebels in the North East were offered the purchase of surface to air missiles by agents who were working on behalf of Chinese intelligence agencies. However, there are reports to suggest that the top leaders of some of the insurgent groups of North Eastern region have frequented China on quite a number of occasions, both to establish rapport with Chinese authorities as also to facilitate procurement of arms and ammunition from Chinese agents. The insurgent groups operating in the North Eastern States have been augmenting their armoury by acquiring arms from China, Thailand and Sino-Myanmar border towns and routing them through Myanmar. The acquisition of arms by the NE insurgent groups has been facilitated by the easy availability of weapons in the Sino-Myanmar border towns like Tengchong, Ruili and Yingjiang in Yunnan province.

Central Government has deployed Central Security Forces to aid the State authorities for carrying out counter insurgency operations and providing security for vulnerable institutions and installations; shared intelligence on continuous basis; gave financial assistance for strengthening of the local Police Forces and intelligence agencies under the Police Modernization Scheme; and provided assistance for strengthening various aspect of the security apparatus and counter-insurgency operations, by way of reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure. The scheme is being implemented in all States of the region except in Mizoram and Sikkim. Central Government has also assisted the States for raising of additional Forces in the form of India Reserve Battalions. Vigilance and surveillance on the border has been strengthened. The Security Forces along the border have been patrolling the border areas regularly and they have been suitably sensitized regarding arms smuggling by the insurgents from time to time. Government of India has voiced its concerns with the Governments of Myanmar and Bangladesh, over the reported smuggling of arms through their territories.