

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2303

ANSWERED ON:27.08.2012

AMMUNITIONS IN SCRAP

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Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of explosives were shipped in containers at Kandla Port of Gujarat in the name of scrap which included deadly weapons from rocket launchers to several other deadly weapons;

(b) if so, the details of the weapons shipped illegally in the form of scrap or through other means at various ports of the country during the last three years;

(c) the agency assigned the responsibility of destroying such seized weapons and the details of weapons destroyed during the last three years; and

(d) the manner in which the misuse of these weapons is checked and the steps taken by the Government to check the occurrence of accident?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a): During the year 2004-05, some war material was found in the scrap containers at Kandla Port. This war material contained used ammunitions and scrap of arms. The ammunition scrap is lying inside the Customs bounded area within the specially fenced enclosure of Kandla Port with round the clock CISF security. Similar material is also lying in the Customs Godowns and the entire cargo is confiscated by Customs.

(b): Information is being collected.

(c) & (d): As per the Home Ministry's letter No. 1-11011/76/04-IS.IV dated 27th August, 2009, a committee headed by District Magistrate & Supdt. of Police, representatives of local Army Unit, NSG and Customs as members has been constituted for identification, segregation and disposal of war materials found in the import consignments. The local Custom Authorities are to co-ordinate the process of disposal and Kandla Port has to provide logistical support. The District Magistrate is also availing the assistance of Army Unit, Bhuj for the above purpose.