

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3451
ANSWERED ON:03.09.2012
SHIPPING OF EXPLOSIVES AS SCRAPS
Hazari Shri Maheshwar

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether containers shipped to Kandla port in Gujarat carried a large scale of explosives and poisonous chemicals in the name of scrap ranging from rocket launchers to several other destructive weapons;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard;
- (c) whether international laws are being violated by allowing the entry of such ships; and
- (d) the manner in which it is ensured that these weapons are not put to misuse and the measures taken to avert any likely accident therefrom?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING (SHRI G.K. VASAN)

(a) & (b): 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.

(c): If the cargo is not declared correctly then such mis-declaration/ concealment is violation of Indian Customs Act, 1962.

(d): As per the Home Ministry's letter No. I-11011/76/04-IS.IV dated 27th August, 2009, committee headed by District Magistrate & Supdt. of police, representative of local Army Unit, NSG and Customs as members has been constituted for identification, segregation and disposal of war material 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.