

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:654
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2013
MONITORING OF AMMONIUM NITRATE
Kalmadi Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that Ammonium Nitrate and other explosives are being illegally diverted to unauthorised miners in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor along with action taken by the Government in this regard;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to monitor the said explosives by Petroleum and Explosive Safety Organisation; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken/ proposed to be taken for providing adequate manpower to monitor such explosives?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN)

(a) & (b): No, Madam, there are no reports of illegal diversion of Ammonium Nitrate & other explosives to unauthorized miners having been received in recent past.

(c) & (d): Activities related to manufacture, import, export, transport, storage, sale and use of explosives including ammonium nitrate are regulated through the Explosives Rules 2008 and the Ammonium Nitrate Rules, 2012 notified under the Explosives Act, 1884. Herein, the responsibilities of the District Authorities, police administration and Petroleum & Explosives Safety Organisation (PESO) pertaining to monitoring of explosives including ammonium nitrate are also defined in the respective rules. In addition, the Union Government has issued necessary directions to all State Governments/Union Territories to undertake close monitoring of operating units of Ammonium Nitrate as per the provisions under Ammonium Nitrate Rules 2012.