

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1161
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2015
ILLEGAL ARMS
Patil Shri Chandrakant Raghunath

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any estimate as to the number of illegal arms possessed by the people in the country;
- (b) if so, the quantum of illegal arms confiscated during the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to unearth illegal arms and prevent the proliferation of such arms in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

- (a) No, Madam. Government does not have any such specific estimate.
- (b) A total of unlicensed/ illegal arms confiscated during the year 2011 to 2014 (Upto 16 December) is 20,351. The state-wise details are given in the Annexure-A.
- (c) the Government of India has taken the following steps to unearth illegal arms and prevent the proliferation of unlicensed/ illegal arms:-
 - (i) The State and UT Governments have been urged to make sustained and continued efforts to unearth unlicensed/illegal arms.
 - (ii) Effective domination of the borders by carrying out round the clock surveillance and patrolling (on foot, by boats and vehicle), laying "nakas" (border ambushes) and by deploying observation posts all along the international border.
 - (iii) Erection of fencing along the international border and flood lighting of the border to enhance the observation during night.
 - (iv) Up gradation of intelligence network and holding coordination meetings among para- military forces at functional and directional levels. Better coordination is also ensured among the Central Para-Military Forces, the Army and the State Police Forces.

Ministry has also developed and launched the National Data Base of Arms Licence (NDAL) as an e-portal to collect and monitor the data of arms licenses in the county being issued by States/UTs and the Central Govt. In this regard MHA has issued a Notification dated 24th July, 2012 directing all licensing authority to enter data of all arm licenses being issued or being renewed for generating a Unique Identification Number (UIN) without which no arms license shall be considered as valid with effect from the 1st October, 2015. The NDAL will prove as an important milestone in curbing illegal licence in the county. This system will also provide online flags and alerts to MHA to regulate the grant of licenses across the country by the licensing authorities.

Further, Ministry of Home Affairs is in process of bringing about Amendments to certain sections of Arms Act, 1959 by way of introducing a provision for severe punishment for illegal licensing and illegal possession of firearm.