

Smuggling of Arms

2055. DR. ASIM BALA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether arms are being smuggled into the country by different militant groups;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the route through which arms are smuggled by the militants through international borders; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) Available reports indicate that arms such as grenades, pistols, 9MM Carbines, AK Rifles and UMGs are being smuggled into the country. Anti-national elements have used western land routes and the coastal borders for infiltration of arms. Instances of Pak ISI inducting arms through some other neighbouring countries have also come to notice.

(d) At the Central level the following action is taken to check the menace:-

1. Ensuring coordination with State Governments/ Intelligence agencies/ Investigating agencies of Central Government on matters relating to exchange of information, sharing of intelligence, planning of strategy and taking coordinated action.
2. Protection of international borders by:
 - (a) Fencing and flood lighting in the sensitive areas on international borders.
 - (b) Strengthening the BSF on the borders through supply of night vision devices, hand held sets, binoculars, dragon lights etc. so as to enhance their capabilities.
 - (c) Setting up additional BOPs (Border Out Posts) with a view to reduce inter BOP distance.
3. Deployment of para military forces and providing of assistance of armed forces where necessary in affected areas.
4. Providing of financial assistance to affected State Governments over and above the on-going allocation for modernisation of Police and supply of weapons in special circumstances.

Viral Fever Cases

2056. SHRI NARESH PUGLIA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that there are spurt in viral fever cases in the Capital during the last few months;

(b) if so, the number of patients suffering from viral cases reported in various Government Hospitals and other private clinics during the last three months;

(c) whether the State Government have totally failed to control this disease; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI DALIT EZHILMALAI): (a) to (d) During summer months, viral fever is common and patients are generally treated as Outdoor patients. The National Institute of Communicable Diseases at Delhi has also not reported any increase in cases of viral fever in Delhi nor it investigated any such outbreak in recent months.

FCI Godowns

2057. DR. RAMAKRISHNA KUSMARIA:
SHRIMATI KAMAL RANI:
SHRI RANJIB BISWAL:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of FCI godowns at present, State-wise, capacity-wise;

(b) whether the Government have received proposals from various States for setting up more Food Corporation of India godowns;

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(d) the time by which a decision is likely to be taken;

(e) whether the Government propose to construct such more godowns particularly in rural areas during 1998-99; and

(f) if so, the details thereof; location-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) The total number of godowns (owne and hired/ covered & Covered and Plinth (CAP) available with FCI as on 31.03.1998 are 1590 with a total storage capacity of 223.69 lakh tonnes. The State-wise details are given in the Statement enclosed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

(e) FCI builds godowns only at nodal points in the country. Therefore, there is no proposal to build godowns in rural areas.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

No. of FCI Godowns State-wise and their Capacity as on 31.3.1998

(In lakh tonnes)

S.No.	State/UTs	No. of FCI Godowns	Capacity
1	2	3	4
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	03	0.12
2.	Andhra Pradesh	150	21.33
3.	Assam	42	2.80
4.	Bihar	55	5.61
5.	Goa	*	0.15
6.	Gujarat	40	8.63
7.	Haryana	118	15.85
8.	Himachal Pradesh	17	0.27
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	14	1.01
10.	Karnataka	48	4.78
11.	Kerala	23	5.31
12.	Madhya Pradesh	131	12.01
13.	Maharashtra	39	14.16
14.	Manipur	03	0.13
15.	Meghalaya	05	0.16
16.	Mizoram	06	0.22
17.	Nagaland	06	0.21
18.	Orissa	52	4.42
19.	Punjab	450	65.10
20.	Rajasthan	85	10.88
21.	Sikkim	04	0.16
22.	Tamil Nadu	33	7.93

1	2	3	4
23.	Tripura	07	0.35
24.	Uttar Pradesh	193	25.89
25.	West Bengal	56	11.48
26.	Chandigarh	**	0.74
27.	Delhi	10	3.78
28.	Pondicherry	***	0.41
Total		1590	223.69

* included in Maharashtra.

** included in Punjab.

*** included in Tamil Nadu.

Discontinuation of Sugar Import

2058. SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY :
SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY :
SHRI HARI KEWAL PRASAD :
SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to discontinue policy on Import of Sugar free of duty;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government propose to import sugar during the current year;

(e) if so, the details indicating the quantity and rate thereof; and

(f) whether the Government propose to revise the policy with regard to import of sugar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) to (f) As per the present policy, import of sugar is allowed under Open General Licence (O.G.L.) and with effect from September, 1997, Government has introduced a system of compulsory registration of import contracts with the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). Further, Government, with effect from 28.4.1998 has also imposed a basic Customs duty of 5% and a countervailing duty of Rs. 850 per tonne of imported sugar.

No import of sugar is being contemplated on Government account during the current year.