GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF DEFENCE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2914

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 2ND DECEMBER, 2016

FIRE AT CENTRAL AMMUNITION DEPOT IN PULGAON

2914. SHRI KAMAL NATH: ADV. M. UDHAYAKUMAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE j{kk ea=h be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Court of Inquiry was set up to investigate the causes of fire in Armyøs Ammunition Depot held in Maharashtraøs Pulgaon in May this year;

(b) if so, the findings of the court of inquiry set up by the Army;

(c) whether any responsibility has been fixed on any specific agency for the fire accident;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government to provide fool proof security in all its ammunition depots across the country; and

(e) the other steps taken by the Government / Ordnance Factory Board to destroy the remaining defective mines at the Central Ammunition Depot at Pulgaon?

(a) & (b): Yes, Madam. The Court of Inquiry set up on 31.05.2016 to investigate the causes of fire in Central Ammunition Depot, Pulgaon has attributed the fire to excessive exudation and resultant explosion of segregated Mines Anti Tank ND 1A.

(c) Based on the findings of the Court of Inquiry, action has been initiated for fixing responsibility for this incident.

(d) Security and Fire Fighting audit of all ammunitions echelons has been completed at respective Command HQ level to further strengthen security and Fire Fighting procedures. Further, development of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on disposal of defective ammunition in fixed time frame is underway.

(e) All TNT exuded affected mines held in Central Ammunition Depot, Pulgaon have been destroyed.
