

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2889

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 15TH MARCH, 2016/PHALGUNA 25, 1937 (SAKA)

ILLEGAL WEAPONS

2889. SHRI KAMAL NATH:
SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that illegal weapons markets are thriving in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the penal provisions, if any, to curb the proliferation of illegal arms in the country;

(c) whether the State Governments have not been successful in controlling illegal weapons markets and incidents of criminals of using such weapons have been reported;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government in consultation with the State Governments proposes to formulate any policy/guidelines or strategy to prevent the manufacturing and sale of illegal weapons in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Yes, Madam. There have been instances of recovery of illegal weapons. In 2014, 55255 persons were arrested by the various States for violation of various provisions of Arms Act, 1959. It led to seizure of 55453 unlicensed arms. Section 25 of the Arms Act, 1959 deals with penal provisions including imprisonment for possession of unlicensed arms, illicit manufacture, sale, transfer, conversion etc. of the same.

(d) & (e) The compliance of various provisions of the Arms Act is the responsibility of all concerned, in particular, the State Governments/UTs. There are provisions under the Arms Act to take punitive action against those who violate the Act. Further, the Central Government wherever considered necessary, issues directions to the State Government/UTs for strict compliance of the Arms Act. The Act has elaborate provisions, under Section 19 to 25 to curb illicit manufacture and trade in arms. Further, to check the proliferation of arms in the country the National Data Base on Arms Licences (NDAL) has been created, which includes 'inter-alia' issue of Unique Identification Number (UIN) for each licence.
