

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1336
TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 9TH MARCH, 2016/PHALGUNA 19, 1937 (SAKA)

ILLEGAL USE OF INDUSTRIAL EXPLOSIVES BY NAXALITES

1336. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the threat perception arising out of easy availability and increasing illegal use of industrial explosives particularly by naxalites in the country;

(b) whether there is need to tighten the control on the sale, purchase, storage and movement of explosive materials, particularly those used in mines;

(c) what are the prevailing norms for these; and

(d) the measures taken by Government in this regard?

ANSWER

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

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c): There are provisions under the Explosives Act, 1884, the Explosives Rules, 2008 and the Ammonium Nitrate Rules, 2012 to check pilferage, smuggling and looting of explosives. These Acts deal with the regulation of the storage, manufacture, possession, use, sale and transportation of explosives basically used for the industrial purpose. The Explosives Substance Act, 1908 prescribes punitive provisions for illegal transaction of Explosives.

(d): The measures taken by the Central Government in this regard are as follows:

- (i) All licences under Explosives Rules, 2008 are granted, renewed, amended and transferred through the computerized licensing module for effective online monitoring.
- (ii) On the initiative of Ministry of Home Affairs, Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO) has sensitized the District Magistrates (DMs) and Superintendants of Police (SsP) of 35 worst LWE affected districts about the compliance of Explosives Rules, 2008 and Ammonium Nitrate Rules, 2012.
- (iii) Online accounting and generation of pass (in Form RE-13) for use of explosives by the license holder for possession & use of explosives, on day-to-day basis, has been made mandatory by the Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organization (PESO), with effect from 1st October, 2015.
- (iv) Ministry of Home Affairs has requested the LWE affected states to take up the investigation of cases pertaining to IED blasts/recovery of the explosives through State Intelligence Department.
- (v) More participation of State police and security forces is being ensured in the training programmes organized by the institute of Improvised Explosive Device (IED) Management, Pune.