

PRESS NOTE

Today, a criminal court in Bangkok, upon hearing on an extradition request made by Government of India, issued order for extradition of a Thai national Wuthikorn Naruenartwanich @ Willy to face trial in India. Wuthikorn Naruenartwanich @ Willy, a Bangkok based arms broker, is an accused in NIA case no. RC-01/2010.

This NIA case relates to a criminal conspiracy for illegal procurement of a shipload of sophisticated arms and ammunitions from a foreign country, in which a top functionary of NSCN (IM), Anthony Shimray was arrested by the NIA. Investigation by NIA had revealed that the said accused Anthony Shimray had negotiated several times with Wuthikorn Naruenartwanich @ Willy to fix a deal to the tune of US \$ 1.2 million to procure huge quantity of arms and ammunition. For this deal, US \$ 800,000 was paid by accused Anthony Shimray to co-accused Wuthikorn Naruenartwanich @ Willy. NIA had filed a chargesheet in this case on 26.03.2011 against four accused persons including Anthony Shimray and said Wuthikorn Naruenartwanich @ Willy u/s 120B, 121A, 122 of IPC and 16, 17, 18 and 20 of UA(P) Act. Presently Anthony Shimray is in jail and facing trial in NIA court Delhi.

The Bangkok court has given 30 days' time to accused Wuthikorn Naruenartwanich @ Willy to prefer appeal against its order if he desires so. Extradition order against Willy is a significant achievement in the law enforcement response to insurgency in the North East, and it would act as a deterrence against arms trafficking for the benefit of banned terrorist organisations.