

[24 July, 2002]

RAJYA SABHA

- (b) whether any initiative has been taken in this regard; and
- (c) if so, what preparations are going on?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The Government has extended an invitation to all those who have strayed from the paths of togetherness to come forward for talks within the four corners of our Constitution. The United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) has not yet come forward for peace talks within the parameters indicated.

PM's meeting with opposition leaders on cross border Terrorism

790. SHRI SK. KHABIR UDDIN AHMED: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Prime Minister has recently met the leaders of Opposition parties in view of situation arising out of cross-border terrorism;
- (b) if so, the details of the suggestions given by the leaders of the Opposition parties; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) The Prime Minister has been regularly consulting with the leaders of various opposition parties on major national and international issues including cross-border terrorism. The Prime Minister's exchange of views and ideas with these leaders has been aimed at developing a broad national consensus on these issues.

International Observers for J&K Legislative Assembly Election

791. SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government agrees to have international observers in Jammu and Kashmir at the time of election to the Legislative Assembly; and
- (b) what steps Government are taking to hold free and fair elections?