

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENIVIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Conduct of Assembly election in the States and matters related thereto, including appointment of observers, is a subject under the exclusive domain of the Election Commission of India in terms of Article 324 of the Constitution of India and Article 138 of the Constitution of J&K.

(b) Government, on its part is determined to providing appropriate support to the Election Commission to help it ensure a free, fair and credible election to the State Assembly. The State Government has already been advised to provide security cover to leaders of various political parties commensurate with the threat perception in each case. Further the State Government has been asked to address the security concerns of the common people as well as leaders of political parties to encourage them to interact freely. At the same time State Government has been advised to undertake sustained and focused demonstrative anti-terrorist strikes against the terrorist and other hardcore pro-Pak fundamentalists to blunt their capabilities to disrupt the election process. Efforts are also on for providing additional CPMFs, despite constraints and demands from elsewhere in the country, to assist it for the smooth, peaceful and fair conduct of the Assembly elections in J&K.

Civil reform package for Jammu and Kashmir

792. DR. AKHILESH DAS:

SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU):

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been thinking of scaling down military deployment on Indo-Pak borders along Jammu and Kashmir and taking to civil reforms in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) if so, what is the civil package contemplated for Jammu and Kashmir and the steps taken and being taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (d) Induction/ deinduction of Armed Forces at the borders is done keeping in view the security requirements. At the present juncture, scaling down of military deployment on the Indo-Pak border along J&K is not under consideration.

[24 July, 2002]

RAJYA SABHA

As regard civil reforms, the Government conjointly with the State Government of J&K is continuing to pursue a multi-pronged strategy to bring peace and normalcy in the State. The major prongs of the strategy are (i) proactive talking of cross border terrorism with J&K; (ii) accelerated economic development of the State; (iii) being prepared to talk with any group of people within the State who eschew the path of violence. Necessary refinements in the above strategy continue to be made as per requirements from time to time.

Terrorists entering J&K after General Musharaf's commitment

793. SHRI SUNIL SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of terrorists who entered Jammu and Kashmir after commitment from General Musharaf to stop infiltration; and

(b) the details of the terrorist outfits and training camps indentified/ located by Government at various places of Jammu and Kashmir which are presently run/sponsored by Pak Government and ISI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Though exact figures of infiltration at any given point are not possible to know, all estimates indicate that following General Musharaf's commitment made under international pressure to stop infiltration as publically stated through his speech on 27 May, 2002 there was a drop in infiltration; however infiltration attempts have again picked up. The assessments also indicate that there is a slight decline in infiltration in current calender year as compared with the previous calender year.

(b) Training camps exist across the IB/LoC in Pakistan/Pok. Government have no reports regarding existence of training camps in J&K. However, terrorists are reported to have from time to time set up temporary camps/hideouts using shelters like dhoks, shepherds' huts in remote jungle areas.

Construction of shopping complex near Moreh No-Mans Land

794. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Manipal Government has sent a report to the Centre