

(b) if so, the details thereof and what action has been taken to ensure that the place is not made a pilgrimage spot?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to information received from the State Government, one Shri Manshah, S/o Shri Harju, of village Satpurva, District Mahoba, Uttar Pradesh had expired on 11.11.1999. His widow, Smt. Charanshah, was reportedly very attached to him. After her husband's funeral pyre had been lit and the villagers, who had accompanied the dead body, had gone to take a bath, she rushed to the cremation site and mounted the burning pyre. The enquiries conducted by the District Magistrate and the Superintendent of Police reveal that Smt. Charanshah was not motivated or pressurised by anybody to take this drastic step. This is said to be a case of suicide, and not of Sati, as neither Smt. Charanshah nor the villagers had performed any pooja/rituals before the incident. "Police" and "Public Order" being State subjects, the Government of Uttar Pradesh has been advised to keep the situation under watch and prevent all attempts for converting the place into a Sati Temple or a pilgrimage spot.

### **Foreign Citizens Settling In Border Areas of Gujarat**

250. **SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Government of India have issued identity cards to Indian citizens residing in border districts of Gujarat;

(b) whether it is also a fact that foreign nationals like Bangladeshis etc. are settling down in the Pak border areas adjoining Gujarat;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the efforts made or being made to check such activities of foreign citizens in the border districts?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO):** (a) Under a Pilot Scheme in 1993, Government had issued Identity Cards in some of the border areas in the districts of Kutch and Banaskant of Gujarat.

[1 December, 1999]

RAJYA SABHA

(b) and (c) There are no reports of any large scale settlement of foreign nationals like Bangladesh is on either side of the Gujarat border.

(d) A regular watch is being maintained by the State and Central Security agencies with a view to check unauthorised entry and/or movement of foreign nationals in the bordering areas of Gujarat. Governemnt of Gujarat have intimated that action for deportation of 22 Bangladeshi nationals, who are in their custody, has been initiated by them.

### **Mandatory Preparation of Mining Plan**

251. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, preparation of mining plan/scheme once in every five years is mandatory for the small mine owners also; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to involve the Indian Bureau of Mines, Nagpur, to do this job so as to provide technical assistance/relief to small mine owners, by bringing forward suitable legislation, in the interest of mining industry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES AND MINERALS (PROF. RITA VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no proposal to bring about any legislation in this regard. However, the Indian Bureau of Mines, Nagpur has already prescribed simplified format for preparation of mining plan/mining schemes which benefit small mine owners. Indian Bureau of Mines also assists the recognised Qualified Persons who prepare the mining plans/schemes by organising training programmes, and by issue of guidelines/advice to such persons regularly.

### **Private Sector Participation in Coal Mining.**

252. SHRI PRAFULL GORADIA: Will the Minister of State for MINES AND MINERALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to allow private sector in the coal mining;