

Drugging of Police Chiefs Brother

46. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a newsitem under headline 'My brother was drugged, looted, Police Chief' which appeared in Hindustan Times dated 4th October, 1999, if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(b) what steps Government have taken/propose to take in the matter and to prevent such occurrences in future; and

(c) what action Government have taken to enquire into this incident and finding thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) The incident referred to in the news item is over seven years old. According to information received from the Government of Uttar Pradesh, on 21/22.4.1992, Shri V.R. Sharma, MD, OBT Limited, brother of Shri Ajai Raj Sharma, presently Commissioner of Police, Delhi, was travelling by train from Bareilly to Bhadohi. He was offered a sandwich containing some narcotics by a co-passenger as a result of which he became unconscious. His luggage and cash amount to Rs. 30,000/-approximately were stolen. A complaint was lodged in connection with this incident with PS, GRP, Varanasi on 29.4.1992 on the basis of which a case under section 328/379 IPC was registered. The case was later transferred to PS, GRP, Hardoi. The accused was arrested by the police on 12.6.1993. He was sentenced to imprisonment for 8 months by the court on 14.12.1993.

The registration, investigation, detect on and prevention of crime in running trains is the responsibility of the Government Railway Police (GRP) which functions under the control of the respective State Governments. It is, therefore, essentially for the State Governments to take such measures as are considered necessary to curb crimes in trains.

The Ministry of Railway is also maintaining close coordination with GRP authorities to prevent incidents of drugging and poisoning in trains.