

Demand for a separate State of Gorkhaland

1980. SHRI DAWA LAMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that majority of the people from Darjeeling, Dooars and Terai are demanding creation of a separate State of Gorkhaland;

(b) whether it is also known that Secretaries of Gorkha National Liberation Front from Darjeeling, Kalimpong and Kurseong are also demanding Gorkhaland; and

(c) whether Chairman of Gorkha National Liberation Front is also demanding Gorkhaland?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Government is aware of a demand for a separate State of Gorkhaland from certain quarters.

(c) Chairman, Darjeeling Gorkha Autonomous Hill Council has raised the issue of giving the DGAHC. Status as provided in the Sixth Schedule of the constitution.

Killing of innocent people belonging to Bihar in Assam

†1981. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether innocent persons originally belonging to Bihar have been killed by the terrorists in Assam recently;

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to check the terrorist activities in Assam; and

(c) what assistance has been provided to the dependents of victims of the terrorist violence?

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

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

(b) The Government of India is kept apprised of the violent incidents in the State on a regular basis. The Government has taken various steps to bring the law and order situation in Assam under control. These include, *inter alia*, deployment of Para-military forces and army in the State, coordinated action by army, Para-military forces and State Police for counter insurgency operations, declaration of major insurgent groups as unlawful association under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967; declaration of insurgency affected State as "disturbed area" under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958; reimbursement of security related expenditure to the State Government and modernisation/upgradation of State Police Force. Regular review of the situation both at State and Central Government level is being made. An emergent meeting was convened by Union Home Minister at Delhi on December 8, 2000 with Governor and Chief Minister, Assam. An action plan to tackle the situation has been drawn up.

(c) An *ex-gratia* amount of Rs. 1 lakh is paid to next of kin of civilians killed in terrorist violence.

ISI activities in Uttaranchal

†1982. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of prevalence of activities of ISI in the newly constituted State of Uttaranchal;

(b) whether Uttaranchal Government have sent any proposal to Government for providing financial assistance to make their police force efficient and well-equipped since they do not have adequate financial resources; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.