

[21 March, 2001]

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intensive patrolling by the Police and Army; deployment of additional 27 coys, of CRPF in Assam since December, 2000; imposition of curfew in a belt of 5-10 Kms. along the international borders depending upon local conditions etc. Regular review of the situation both at State and Central Government level is being made.

Non-Registration of Christian and Muslim SCs in Census 2001

2765. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Christian and Muslim SCs cannot register their community in the on-going census;
- (b) whether it is also true that only Buddhist, Sikh and Hindu religion are contained in the census form with regard to SC category;
- (c) if so, the reasons for deletion of Muslims and Christians; and
- (d) what immediate measures Government are going to take to rectify this issue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (d) At the Census of India, 2001, the Scheduled Caste population in each State and Union territory was enumerated in accordance with the constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 as amended from time to time. As per this Presidential Order, the Scheduled Caste can be amongst Hindus, Sikhs and Buddhists only. As such the persons belonging to other religions including Christians and Muslims cannot be recorded as Scheduled Castes. The procedure to enumerate the Scheduled Caste population followed at the Census of India, 2001 was the same as followed at the earlier censuses and in accordance with the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950, therefore the question of taking any measure to rectify the same does not arise.

Changing Ratio of Population in North-East

† 2766. SHRI B.P. APTE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether the changing ratio of population has any concern with the secessionist activities in North-East States;

(b) what decision has been taken by Government on the report submitted by the Governor of Assam on this aspect;

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken by Government to repeal IMDT, Act; and

(d) whether any special scheme has been formulated to strengthen the security at border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO): (a) Secessionist activities in certain North-Eastern States have links to the changes in demographic pattern in these States over the years.

(b) and (d) the Governor of Assam had submitted a report on illegal immigration to the President of India. Recommendations of the Governor have been sent to the State Govt, of Assam for appropriate action on points concerning them. The Central Govt. have taken a series of measures to prevent illegal migration and to strengthen the security at Indo-Bangladesh border. These include raising of additional Battalions of Border Security Forces, intensification of Patrolling both on the land and the riverine border, reduction of gaps between the border outposts, accelerated programme of construction of border roads and fencing, increase in the number of outposts towers, provisions of surveillance equipments etc.

Based on the reports received from the North-Eastern States, Border Security Force and other agencies, a regular review is under taken to monitor the situation on an ongoing basis.

(c) The repeal of the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983 is under consideration of the Govt.