

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SYED SIBTE RAZI): (a) to (e) The available reports indicate that some fundamentalist groups are functioning in Assam with support from across the border. Pak ISI operatives based in Bangladesh are aiding and abetting terrorist and fundamentalist forces in the North-East.

The Government is aware of the situation and the same is under constant watch and close review. The security forces have been duly sensitized. Our security concerns have been conveyed to the Government of Bangladesh. An institutional mechanism has also been put in place with Bangladesh to discuss various issues in this regard on an on going basis.

Telephone Adalats

706. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether telephone adalats organised in Delhi are working well in the settlement of the problems of the consumer;

(b) if so, the duration after which these adalats are being held;

(c) whether Government propose to hold these adalats in every city and district headquarters and also to increase the frequency of holding such adalats; and

(d) if so, the steps taken or being taken by Government in that direction?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Telephone adalats are held once in every three months.

(c) and (d) Telephone Adalats are held in all Telephone Districts in States once every three months. There is no proposal to increase the frequency of holding such adalats at present.

Rubberising of Roads

707. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any research is going on for rubberising roads;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government are aware that a few kilometers of MC road at Vempayam near Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala was rubberised years back and new roads were rubberised recently if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government would take steps to rubberise certain portion of National Highways on experimental basis and rubberise all roads; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A research scheme was sanctioned in March, 1993, for Rs. 7.46 lakhs for laying three experimental stretches on Kanpur-Varanasi Section of NH-2, near Allahabad, using rubber as a modifier. The work was completed in March, 1995 and the performance study is in progress.

(c) As regards the MC Road in Kerala, the same is not a National Highway, and hence the responsibility for development lies with the State Government.

(d) After the completion of the above performance study and finalisation of specifications, the Ministry could consider the same for suitable adoption on National Highways.

Non-payment of ex-gratia payment to the migrated Refugees

708. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the refugees who migrated to Jammu and Kashmir from West Pakistan have been promised by the Central Government ex-gratia grant of at least Rs. 12,000/per family for rehabilitation;

(b) whether in spite of numerous representations neither the Central Government nor the State Government have fulfilled their promise of giving the aforesaid grant to such persons;

(c) what are the reasons for the long delay; and

(d) the reasons for which it is not possible for Government to grant the long standing

demand of the displaced persons, during the President's Rule?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAMLAL RAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) In view of (a) above the question does not arise.

Prior information with intelligence agencies on dropping of Arms

709. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the intelligence agencies had any prior information about the possibility of parachute dropping of arms;

(b) if so, whether such information was duly passed on to the respective State Governments on an urgent basis;

(c) what are the reasons that the Government of West Bengal received such information 14 days after the incident;

(d) whether the investigation by the Central Investigating Agencies have proved that involvement of Anand Margis in the case; and

(e) whether Government is prepared to concede the vulnerability in the light of the arms droppings and if not, the justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SYED SIBTE RAZI): (a) to (c) The intelligence agencies had prior information about the possibility of arms being unloaded by a small plane after landing at an abandoned airfield in Dhanbad area of Bihar for an insurgent group of that area. The Government of Bihar was sensitised by the concerned intelligence agency. Although the information pertained to Bihar, the information was also shared with the West Bengal Govt. as a matter of additional precaution. The letters containing the information being of classified nature, were despatched as per the existing instructions on the subject.

(d) Investigations so far conducted by the Central Bureau of Investigation indicate the involvement of Anand Margis in the case. CBI are further investigating the matter to find out whether Anand Margis were the ultimate and end users of the weapons or whether they were to be a conduit for some other group.

(e) Central Bureau of Investigation, who are investigating the matter, are looking into all aspects of it, their report is awaited by the Government.

Crimes against Women

710. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of women raped and molested during 1993, 1994, 1995 and in 1996 till-date, State-wise and Union Territory-wise;

(b) the steps taken to check the crimes against women;

(c) the number of persons arrested in this regard State-wise and Union Territory-wise; and

(d) the action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (PROF. M. KAMSON): (a) The available information on the incidents of molestation and rape during the relevant period is given in the Annexure No. I. [See Appendix 176, Annexure No. 35]

(b) The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes against women is the responsibility of the State Governments / Union Territory Administrations. However, the Government of India has initiated a number of measures to check such crimes. Apart from legislative changes in the relevant Acts, instructions/guidelines have been issued from time to time to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to effectively enforce legislation relating to crimes against women. Besides, the media is being used to project women in positive terms. Awareness generation camps are being organised. The Development of Women and Children in Rural Areas (DWACRA) Programme and the Female Literacy Programme are some of the other steps being taken to improve the status of women.