

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Foreign Mercenaries Operating in Kashmir Valley

7780. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether more than 2,500 foreign mercenaries from Pakistan, Pak occupied Kashmir, Sudan, Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, Iran and other countries are at present operating in the Kashmir Valley;

(b) whether the presence of such a large number of foreign mercenaries to help train and abet the militants' outfit in the Valley, is to bring about a qualitative and quantitative change in the fighting capabilities of Kashmiri militants; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to counter this renewed threat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (c) There are reports of intensification of efforts by Pakistan to infiltrate foreign elements/mercenaries from across the border into J & K in a bid to further escalate and upgrade violence, and boosting the morale of the militants in the state. However, it is not possible to precisely estimate the number of such persons. Such elements are reported to include persons from Pakistan/POK, Afganistan, Sudan, Lebanon, Egypt, Bahrain, Algeria etc.

This challenge posed by the phenomenon is being faced in a determined manner. During the recent months, apart from intensification of steps to check infiltration/exfiltration across the LOC, security measures in the hinterland have also been further strengthened/streamlined, to bring in greater coordination in the operation of the various forces in the State and

sharing of information for better results. As a result, significant successes have also been achieved in terms of recovery of weapons and killing/apprehension of a large number of militants including foreign national/mercenaries.

Massive Development Plan for Jammu and Kashmir

7781. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Government has unfolded a massive development plan for revitalising the PDS, health facilities and employment insurance schemes for Jammu and Kashmir at the instance of the Prime Minister to improve conditions there and to bring about normalcy;

(b) whether Government propose to ensure the safe return of more than three lakh Kashmiri migrants to their hearths and homes in the Valley because without their return normalcy cannot be restored in the State; and

(c) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS: (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a): As a part of efforts towards restoration of normalcy in Jammu & Kashmir, and motivating the people to come into the mainstream, concerted efforts have been made, since the middle of last year, to step up the pace of economic/development activity in the State. With the aim of understanding in detail the problems relating to development efforts, identifying areas where decisions were required, including resource augmentation, and putting in place measures by which the actual implementation of various schemes could be more effective, there have been a series of discussion between the concerned Central Government and State Government officials, followed by a visit of a team of union Secretaries of the Ministries/Departments of Education,

Small Scale Industries, Women & child Development, Health, Rural Development and Civil Supplies and the Director General of Health Services, accompanied by the Secretary to Prime Minister, in April, 1994. As a result of these exercises various decisions, including extension of the converge of the Revamped Public Distribution System (RPDS) to additional areas in the State; enhancement of outlays under rural development programmes such as, JRY, IRDP, TRYSEM, etc; additional projects under the ICDS; projects in the industrial infrastructure, fruit processing and KVI sectors; assistance for restoration of damaged schools and augmentation of medical and ambulatory services; and enhanced allocation of foodgrains under the PDS system, etc. have been taken. The financial impact of the various decisions taken would be approximately Rs. 152 crores. The implementation of these is being closely followed up and monitored in close coordination with the State Government.

(b) and (c) Permanent rehabilitation of the migrants from the Kashmir Valley is not contemplated and it is the effort of the Government to create conditions wherein the migrants can return to their homes in the Valley at the earliest. However, it is not possible to indicate any definite time frame for *litis propositae*.

Appointment to the Dependents of Ex-CRPF Personnel

7782. SHRI JANANT RAM JAISWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the Answer to Unstarred Question 4713 given in the Rajya Sabha on 27th April, 1994 and state:

(a) what are the details of the three pending cases recommended by the Board of Officers of C.R.P.F. Group Centre, Rampur for appointment of compassionate grounds;

(b) what are the reasons for the inordinate delay in providing them appointment; and

(c) by when these unfortunate dependents would be given appointment by the C.R.P.F.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Applications of the following persons are pending:

(i) Shri Arjun Thapa, S/o late Const. D.B. Thapa.

(ii) Shri Rajendra Prasad, S/o late Const. Pati Ram.

(iii) Shri Pati Ram, brother of late Constable Subash Chand.

(b) The Candidates could not be offered appointment due to delayed submission of applications, non-submission of applications in the prescribed form, not providing complete documents, processing of the cases by various Authorities and also due to non-availability of vacancies under the compassionate appointment quota.

(c) the appointment authorities in CRPF have been advised to offer appointments to S/Shri Arjun Thapa and Rajendra Prasad immediately. The case of Shri Pati Ram is not covered under the Scheme for compassionate appointment.

Major Initiative to Start Dialogue on Jammu and Kashmir Issue

7783. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:
SHRI CHATURANAN
MISHRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any favourable situation has been developed recently for a major initiative to start dialogue on Jammu and Kashmir issue; and

(b) if so, what are these