

(c) On April 22, our High Commissioner in Dhaka called on the Bangladesh Foreign Secretary when the need for measures to avoid the recurrence of such incidents was stressed. Subsequently, a meeting of officer of BSF and BDR at the Inspector General (IG) level took place on May 8, wherein the two sides resolved to exercise restraint in future.

Action Plan to Improve Law and Order situation in the Country

582. KUMARI CHANDRIKA

PREMI KENIA:

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR
BIRLA:

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had stated recently at Puttaparthi that an action plan to improve the law and order situation in the country is on the anvil;

(b) if so, the details of such a plan and by when it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) to what extent law and order situation is likely to be improved in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) No Sir, The Home Minister has not made such a statement.

(b) and (c) Under the VIIIth Schedule to the Constitution, 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects. The primary responsibility for maintenance of law and order thus directly devolves on the State Governments. Nevertheless, the Central Government remains touch with the State Governments and constantly monitors and reviews the situation. As and when necessary suitable assistance is also provided to the State Governments.

Pending Applications for Telephone connections in Kerala

583. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for telephone connections pending in Kerala; and

(b) what steps are being taken by Government to provide telephone connections?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU):

(a) The number of applications pending in Kerala as on 30-6-91 are—186724.

(b) About 40000 applicants are proposed to be given telephone connections during 1991-92 and remaining applicants are proposed to be provided telephone connections progressively during 8th Plan period.

Abduction of Executive Director of Indian Oil Corporation

584. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kashmir militants abducted Shri K. Doraiswamy, Executive Director, Indian Oil Corporation on or about 29th June, 1991; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps Government propose to take to ensure the safe and early release of the Indian Oil Corporation Director.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) and (b) Shri K. Doraiswamy, Executive Director, IOC was abducted by terrorists on 28.6.1991 when he was on temporary duty in Srinagar for inspection of an IOC installation at Zewan, alongwith 5 other IOC Officers. The Officers was abducted on gun point in a taxi and immediately thereafter security forces cordoned