

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) More Secured Passports (MSP) with additional security features were introduced in India from 16 August, 1990 which would make photo substitution, the main modus-ope-randi of forgers, difficult.

(b) No, Sir. The average time taken to issue passports by the Passport Office, Delhi is five weeks except in these cases where reports are not satisfactory.

(c) Steps taken in this regard were given in Annexure II in reply to the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1449 dated 31-7-91

Vacancies in Manta Hospital, shri dara, Dehi

1337. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a good number of vacancies in Group 'D' posts have been lying vacant in the Mental Hospital, Shahdara, Delhi since long;

(b) whether it is a fact that nominees of the Employment Exchanges have been awaiting their interviews/selections; and

(c) if se, by when the interview/selec-ition formalities would be completed ?

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) The Delhi Administration have reported that there were 30 vacancies of Group 'D*' posts in Mental Hospital. Shahdara upto March, 1991. Of these, 24 vacancies were notified to the Employment Exchange. The remaining, 6 vacancies are to be filled up by departmental promotion

(b) and (c) The particulars of candidates has been received from Employment Exchanges and a meeting for selection has been fixed for 14.9.1991

U.S. Congressional Report.

U38. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have studied the U.S. Congressional Report entitled 'Democrat India is no Iraq' which says that no U.S. national interest would appear served by supporting separatist movement in India;

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government to dispel the impression created by the report; and

(c) the action taken by Government to demur such wild and mali'cioug propaganda?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Government have been the Congressional Research Service Report entitled "India: Regional Dissidence And Human Rights problems.

(b) and (c) Government have made consistent efforts to project the correct picture of developments in this regard.

Newsitem Captioned "Government Changes, Phones—Tapping goes on"

1339. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATEL:

DR. BAPU KALDTAE:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

SHRI KAMAL MORARKA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned 'Government changes, phone—tapping goes on' which appeared in Indian Express of 7th August, 1991 and if so, whether, any action has been taken on various instances cited on phone—tapping;

(a) whether any cognizance has been taken of the prone—tapping as alleged and as complained by various MLAs and MPs against Karnataka Government; and

(c) whether there is a proposal to review the provision of old Act empowering Government to tap phones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT-CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The Government is aware of the news item in question. Interception of telephone messages is permissible only under Section 5(2) of the Indian Telegraph Act 1885 by authorised officers of the Central/State Government under certain specific conditions. Deptt. of Telecom, only extends technical facilities when specifically requested by such authorised officers under the provision of the Act.

(d) There is a proposal to comprehensively review the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

Financing of Pakistan's Nuclear Programme by BCCI

1340. KUMARI ALIA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of N.B.C. (U.S.) Broadcast on August 06 that fresh evidence had come up from some documents uncovered by the Canadian authorities showing that the B.C.C.I. was involved in financing Pakistan's Clandestine Nuclear Weapons programme;

(b) whether Government are aware that these reports pinpoint B.C.C.I.'s involvement in a deal to cope up with over \$3,33,000 for purchase of special metal alloys needed to build machinery to process enriched Uranium for Nuclear Bombs;

(c) whether the Government are also aware of the fact that the Pakistani founder of B.C.C.I. was a close ally of former Pakistan President Zia-ul-Huq; and

(d) what Is Government's information about those matters; if so, what is the Gov.

ernment doing to counteract the B.C.C.I.'s illegal acts to help Pak's nefarious designs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) (b) and (c) Government are aware of media reports in this regard.

(d) Government are constantly monitoring and reviewing all available information on the matter.

दिल्ली में नगर निगम तथा महानगर परिषद् के चुनाव

1341. डा. रत्नाकर पाण्डेय: क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली में नगर निगम तथा महानगर परिषद् के चुनाव कब तक कराये जाने की संभावना है ; और

(ख) इस विषय में अभी तक कितनी प्रगति हुई है ?

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एम. एम. जैकब): (क) और (ख) दिल्ली के प्रशासक की रिपोर्ट के आधार पर राष्ट्रपति ने 13-1-1990 से 4 महीनों की अवधि के लिए दिल्ली प्रशासन अधिनियम के कुछ उपसंधों के प्रचालन को स्थगित कर दिया था, जिसके फलस्वरूप महानगर परिषद् भंग हो गई थी। इन उपसंधों के स्थगन को समय-समय पर आगे बढ़ा दिया गया, तथा इस समय परिषद् भंग है।

दिनांक 6-1-1990 को दिल्ली नगर निगम का 4 महीने की अवधि के लिए केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा इस आधार पर अतिक्रमण किया गया था कि उसने (दिल्ली नगर निगम) अपने कार्य निष्पादन में लगातार गलतियाँ की हैं। अतिक्रमण की अवधि समय-समय पर बढ़ाई गई। अतिक्रमण की बढ़ाई गई अवधि 5-12-91 को समाप्त हो रही है। इन दोनों निकायों के लिए चुनाव कराने के बारे में अभी कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया गया है।