

action is also initiated by the Delhi Police if any discotheque is found violating the provisions of the Regulations framed under the Delhi Police Act.

Security assessment and preparation to meet terrorist threat

2032.SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of major terrorist attacks like 26th November in Mumbai, has the Government assessed and made preparations to meet threats to security of vital installations, critical assets and community at large, especially in view of proactive role of Taliban near Indo-Pakistan border, phenomenal increase in activities of belligerent and insurgent outfits like Naxalite, Maoists, ULFA, Fundamentalists, Extremists, etc.; and

(b) if so, law and order being a State subject whether wide-ranging consultations have been held and consensus on the line of action arrived at?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The Government has been on a continuing basis reviewing the security arrangements in the light of emerging challenges, including terrorist and naxalite activities and a number of important decisions and measures have been taken. These measures include augmenting the strength of Central Para-Military Forces, establishment of NSG hubs at Chennai, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Mumbai and strengthening Coastal security. Besides the National Investigation Agency has been constituted and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act 1967 been amended and notified in 2008 to strengthen the punitive measures to combat terrorism. Further, the central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing assistance for security and development which, *inter-alia*, include deployment of CPMFs, CoBRA Battalions, provision of funds for modernization of weapons and for other socio-economic and developmental works.

Multiple visas for oustees from Afghanistan

2033.SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many Hindu and Sikh oustees from Afghanistan are in India and what are their demands and the action taken by Government on that;

(b) how many of them have been given Indian citizenship;

(c) how many applications for that are pending (all those who have completed 12 years of stay in India);

(d) how long it will take to clear their applications; and

(e) whether Government will consider granting them multiple visas for a longer period to facilitate their journeys?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) As per available records, there are 24381 registered Afghan nationals

staying in India as on 31.12.2008. Community based data of Afghan nationals staying in India is not maintained. The main demands of the Hindu and Sikh oustees from Afghanistan relate to grant of Indian citizenship and for multiple re-entry visa. Appropriate action as per law is taken on their demands.

(b) 1499 Afghan nationals have been granted Indian Citizenship upto 30.6.2009.

(c) and (d) Requests for grant of Indian Citizenship to Afghan nationals are considered under the relevant provisions contained in Section 5 and 6 of the Citizenship Act, 1955. As per Rule 7 & 9 of the Citizenship Rules, 1956, the applications for grant of Indian Citizenship are received and processed by State Governments/Central Government at different stages. All such applications, as and when received by the Central Government from the State Governments are processed immediately as per the provisions of law. No centralized data base of pending applications is maintained in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

(e) Hindu and Sikh oustees from Afghanistan staying in India and registered with Foreigners Regional Registration Officers (FRROs)/Foreigners Registration Officers (FROs), are granted two re-entry facilities in a year for a maximum period of 45 days each OR one re-entry facility for a maximum period of 90 days. This re-entry facility is granted to the Hindu and Sikh oustees from Afghanistan for (i) disposal of their property in Afghanistan or (ii) for visiting a country other than Afghanistan and Pakistan provided the request is found justified.

Foreigners visiting with valid visa

†2034. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the country-wise number of foreigners who visited India on valid Visa during last five years;
- (b) whether illegal visa-holders were apprehended; and
- (c) if so, the number thereof alongwith the names of their countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) As per available information foreigners who visited India on valid Visas during last five year, viz., 2004 to 2008 is given in the table below:-

Year	No. of foreigners who visited India on valid visas
2004	3478444
2005	3967382
2006	4447167
2007	5096990
2008	5278852

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.