

security of the tourists, Ministry of Tourism has advised all the State Governments/Union Territories Administrations to deploy Tourist Police. Ministry of Tourism has also circulated guidelines for formation of Tourist Security Organization(s) comprising Ex-Servicemen, for the safety and security of tourists to State Governments/Union Territory administrations.

Review of security cover to VIPs

2780. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reviewed the security cover provided to over 100 VIPs in relation to threat perception being faced by them, in order to curb the expenditure;

(b) if so, the outcome of such review; and

(c) the decision taken in the light thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) The security arrangements for all VIPs/central protectees are reviewed periodically in two high level committees in MHA which is an ongoing process.

Diversion of MPF Funds

2781. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds allocated to each State Government for modernization of police forces are being diverted for other purposes;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the funds so far utilized in Andhra Pradesh for modernization?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Under the Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces (MPF Scheme), funds are allocated to the States for various items of expenditure approved in the annual action plans, like mobility, modern weaponry, communication system, training infrastructure facilities, forensic science facilities, strengthening of intelligence branches, security equipment, construction of buildings for police stations/posts, construction of residential buildings for lower level police personnel, etc. On the basis of audit reports, some instances have come to notice where funds meant for a particular item under the Scheme have been inadvertently or otherwise utilized for purchase of another item either not approved in the action plan or other approved items under the scheme requiring prior approval or in another year requiring revalidation. For example, it was found that in the case of Andhra Pradesh, funds allocated against the specific activities were incurred on the training of newly recruited police staff; Punjab Police has purchased office equipments which need prior approval of the competent authority and in the case of Bihar, funds were spent on purchase of vehicles in the year 2008-09 from the allocation of funds of previous year requiring