

[3 May, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. BSNL has finalized a tender for WiMax systems. The finalized rate for procurement was 1.92 crores. The equipment has been received and one system has already been installed at each of the ten selected cities/towns. Guwahati was not included in this phase of ten cities deployment.

123 ©The ten cities/towns selected are as follow:

Bangalore, Chennai, Kolkata, Pune, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad for urban applications and Hissar, Pinjore, Rohtak and Panipat for rural applications.

Racial attacks on Indians in Uganda

123 SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:
SHRIMATI SG INDIRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the recent racial attacks by locals in Kampala (Uganda) on Indian business community belonging to Saurashtra and Charotar region of Gujarat;

(b) whether India has lodged a request with the Ugandan Government for providing adequate protection to its citizens of Indian origin and their properties/business establishment;

(c) whether the racial violence has since abated; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by Ugandan Government to prevent recurrence of such attacks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI ANAND SHARMA): (a) and (b) Yes. Government have taken note of the recent racial attacks by locals in Kampala on Indian business community. It expressed concern to the Government of Uganda about the safety of citizens of Indian origin/PIOs and their properties/business establishments* it took up the matter with the Government of Uganda very strongly and also lodged an immediate request with the Ugandan

Government for providing protection to Ugandans of Indian origin and Indian nationals in Uganda.

(c) Yes.

(d) The President of Uganda has issued a strong statement condemning the racial violence. The Government of Uganda has assured the Government of India and the Indians/PIOs living in Uganda that all possible measures are being taken to ensure the safety of Indians/PIOs and their properties. President of Uganda met Asians in Uganda and assured them that the Government of Uganda will ensure that such incidents do not happen again. The Government are in constant touch with the Government of Uganda and continues to monitor the situation.

123 Agreement of civil nuclear power

†3075. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that first round talks of representatives of India and USA has been held on the proposal of 123 Agreement of civil nuclear power;

(b) if so, the details of the time and location of the talks alongwith the country-wise details of the representatives who participated in the talks;

(c) whether certain decisions have also been taken in the said talks; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether India is ready to accept the said proposal as it is?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Officials from the Government of India and the Government of the United States have held three rounds of talks on the 123 Agreement from June 12-14, 2006 in New Delhi; March 25-27, 2007 in New Delhi; and April 16-19, 2007 in Cape Town, South Africa. The Indian team was led by Dr. S. Jaishankar, currently High Commissioner of India

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.