

(a) and (b) A pilot schema for issue of identity cards in four selected tehsils in four border districts of Rajasthan has been approved and is in the process of implementation by the State Government. The State Governments of Punjab and Gujarat have also been advised to consider preparation of similar pilot schemes. For the present, such schemes are being drawn up only for the States on the western borders.

Entry of Palestinian Terrorists into India

488. SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK;

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that five members of the Palestinian terrorist groups headed by Abu Nidal have entered into India; if so, what steps have been taken to nab them;

(b) whether a red alert was sounded at the Indira Gandhi International Airport recently; and

(c) whether the U.S. Embassy has been asked for more security?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c) Government have seen some press reports in this regard. Appropriate security precautions have been taken.

Sale of Cotton by Cotton Corporation of India

489. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cotton Corporation of India with its offices in Gujarat, Punjab and Marketing State Federations sold cotton against export quota announced in October/November, 1986 in international markets;

(b) if so, how much loss was suffered by each of these organisations by selling cotton at lower prices as compared to the international prices prevailing in the market in October/November, 1986; and

(c) what action Government have taken or propose to take for causing such heavy losses by these organisations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) (a) A statement is attached. (See below)

(b) and (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.