

- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) the manner in which Government propose to deal with the extremists and their foreign collaborators?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) and (c) Government have throughout been keen for settlement of the problem keeping in view the larger considerations of preserving the unity and integrity of the country. Efforts in this direction are continuing. Government hopes that the Shiromani Akali Dal will respond in a positive manner.

Ob) and (d) to (f) The extremist elements have been indulging in sporadic acts of violence. A close watch is being maintained on the activities of such elements and their links.

Measures announced regarding solution of Punjab Problem

320. SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA: SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have announced a series of measures recently to help solve the Punjab problem;
- (b) if so, what are the details thereof;
- (c) whether there has been any change in the attitude of tactics of Akali Dal thereafter; and
- (d) if not, how Government propose to arrive at a political settlement to the Punjab problem without further delay?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A number of Akali leaders who were under detention have been released with a view to creating congenial atmosphere for furthering solution of the problem. As announced on 11-4-1985, the Government have decided to hold judicial inquiry into

allegations in regard to the incidents of organised violence in Delhi following the assassination of the late Prime Minister, Smt. Indira Gandhi. The Government have also lifted the ban on the All India Sikh Students Federation .

(c) and (d) Government have throughout been keen for settlement of issues keeping in view the larger consideration of preserving the unity and integrity of the country. Efforts in this direction are continuing. Government hopes that the Akali Dal will respond in a positive manner.

Dacoities in Delhi

321. SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA: SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA;

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been an alarming increase in the incidence of dacoities in banks, residences and shops in Delhi recently;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases reported during the last three months and in how many cases the suspects have been nabbed; and
- (c) what effective steps are being taken to ensure the safety of life and property of the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RAM DULARI SINHA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. During the three month period 1-1-85 to 31-3-85; 8 cases of dacoity were reported as against 10 cases in the previous quarter. In one case 4 persons have been arrested.

(e) Following are some of the steps have been taken to ensure safety of lives and property:—

- (i) Armed patrolling has been intensified in areas where the branches of various banks are situated. Armed force pickets have also been provided at places where clusters of such branches exist.