

rejects. However, the local Police are also investigating the case based on an FIR lodged with the Police on November 15, 1983.

(d) Does not arise.

Compensation to the Families Hit by Disturbances in Punjab

*335. SHRI ARABINDA GHOSH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have granted any compensation to the families of those who have lost their lives and properties in the disturbances in Punjab;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) if not, whether the matter is under Government's consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Matters pertaining to compensation or *ex-gratia* grants are considered by the State Government,

Posting of Police Officials belonging to Minorities Communities at Thana Level

*336. SHRI RAM NARESH KUSHAWAHA; Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had suggested to the State Governments some time back to post police officers and

police constables belonging to the minority communities at the thana level in a phased manner to create a sense of security among the members of the minority communities and to promote national integration; and

(b) if so, what is the response of the State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) and (b) State Governments have been advised to consider posting of police officers and men belonging to minority communities at the thana level in a phased manner so as to create a sense of security among the members of minority communities. This suggestion has been made recently. It is for the State Governments to consider and take suitable action.

Grant of Pension to Widows of Late Freedom Fighters

*338. SHRI M. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of applications received for grant of pension under the Swatantrata Sainik Sara-man Pension Scheme from widows of late freedom fighters during the last three years; and

(b) what is the number of such applications sanctioned, rejected and pending State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.