

Information about new cases registered, if any, is not available.

### **Liquor sale in Andhara Pradesh**

2238. SHRI KRISHNA MOHAN BHAMIDIPATI :  
SHRI K.V.R.S. BALA SUBBA RAO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the continuing encouragement being given to Arrack (Liquor) Societies in tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh despite numerous representations; and

(b) whether Government propose to take action to stop increase of liquor sales in tribal areas of Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH) : (a) and (b) In the Scheduled areas, the tribals are free to brew their own liquor for domestic consumption. Arrack shops are opened in these areas mainly to cater to the needs of non-tribals who have no right to brew their own liquor. There has not been any increase in the number of liquor shops in the scheduled areas for the year 1982-83. The welfare of tribals is duly taken into account in the excise policy of the State Government.

### **Assault on a Journalist and his family**

2239. SHRI ARABINDA GHOSH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri D.P. Das Gupta, the Ranchi correspondent of 'Hindu' and 'Basumat' and member of the Journalist Action Committee was brutally assaulted on 22nd September, 1982

as reported in 'Statesman', Calcutta Edition of 23-9-1982 by an armed gang of Congress Workers of the Doranda area, moreover the hoodlums ransacked the house of Shri Das Gupta, assaulted him with dagger and bhojoli and two of his daughters were also assaulted and

(b) what action had been taken by the Government of Bihar to stop this sort of criminal activities by the Ruling Party workers against the said journalist?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH) : (a) and (b) A news item appeared in the 'Statesman' Calcutta Edition 23rd September 1982. The State Government is responsible for enforcing the law relating to offences. The matter has, however, been brought to the notice of the Government of Bihar as law and order including prevention and detection of crimes is a state subject.

### **Forged Signature of M.P.s. on Passport Forms**

2240. SHRI SHRIKANT VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are a number of rackets operating in Delhi which forge the signature of Members of Parliament on the passport form of those who are desirous of getting passports; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to stop these operations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH) : (a) One such case was reported in 1981 and 17 in 1982 (upto 30-9-1982) to the Delhi police.