

- (b) if so, whether this ship had set off from Visakhapatnam;
- (c) if so, whether the atomic materials on the ship were detected there;
- (d) whether the atomic materials belong to India or any other country;
- (e) the destination to which it was heading for;
- (f) whether investigations into this matter has been completed; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (g) Based on an anonymous call received by the Chennai Port Trust (CPT) on 19th November, 2009 to the effect that a vessel, named MV Garland, which was anchored off Chennai, was carrying radioactive material, one Indian Coast Guard (ICG) ship and a boat were deployed by the ICG to remain in the vicinity and maintain a vigil on MV Garland. Subsequently, a joint investigation team, comprising officials from Customs, Tamil Nadu Police, Bomb Disposal Squad, IB, Port Authority, CISF, ICG and scientist from Kalpakkam, on inspection of the vessel, found nothing suspicious onboard. It was gathered that the vessel of Malta nationality, registered at Valletta, carrying granite, whose last port of call was Visakhapatnam and was to sail next to Singapore. On completion of the investigation, the vessel was allowed to proceed with her planned passage.

Infiltration in valley

†1062. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE:

SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether according to an assessment made by the Ministry some startling facts have come into light with regard to increasing cases of infiltration and encounters in the valley;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;
- (c) whether check posts along the border are lying abandoned;
- (d) if so, the details thereof?
- (e) whether terrorists are making efforts to occupy these posts; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(f) if so, the action being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) 255 terrorists attempted to infiltrate in J&K between January to June, 2010 as against 485 in 2009. In J&K, along the LC Sector, the Army has adopted a robust counter infiltration strategy which has an appropriate mix of technology and human resource to check infiltration effectively. Innovative troop deployment, efficient use of surveillance and monitoring devices and the LC fence have enhanced the ability to detect and intercept terrorists attempting to infiltrate / exfiltrate.

(c) to (f) No posts are lying abandoned.

ISI agents in NE region

1063. SHRI KUMAR DEEPAK DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that ISI agents are active in North Eastern (NE) region;

(b) whether ISI agents were arrested recently in Tripura and Assam;

(c) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(d) whether Government is aware of the fact that it needs similar attention on the international border of eastern sector as much as western sector as far security of the Nation is concerned; and

(e) if so, the details of steps taken by Government for increasing the strength of BSF along Indo-Bangla border and to strengthen the porous border?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (c) There are inputs that some of the underground groups operating in the North Eastern States have developed links with Pakistan ISI. As per information available, in Tripura one Pak national suspected to be an ISI agent has been arrested alongwith six persons on July 3rd, 2010. In Assam, one person suspected to be associated with the same ISI module was arrested on July 10th, 2010.

The Government has pursued a well-coordinated multi-pronged approach which includes strengthening the border management to check infiltration, galvanizing the intelligence machinery, improved technology, weaponry and equipments for security forces both at the Centre and in the