(a) whether some Bills passed by both Houses of Maharashtra State Legislature were sent to the Central Government for getting assent of the President and are lying with the Home Ministry;

(b) the reasons in delay in obtaining the assent to those Bills; and

(c) when these Bills of Maharashtra State Legislature are likely to be cleared by the Home Ministry for obtaining assent of the President?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, the State legislations are examined from three angles *viz.* (a) repugnancy with Central Laws, (b) deviation from national or Central Policy and (c) legal and Constitutional validity. Whenever necessary, the State Government are advised to modify/amend provision of such legislations keeping the above in view. With a view to expeditiously arriving at a decision, discussions are also held with State Governments and Ministries/Departments of the Government of India. Hence no time-frame can be fixed in this behalf.

Special package for Nagaland

3165. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is working on a special package for Nagaland with substantial financial assistance and greater administrative autonomy by moving relevant items from the Central to the State list for Nagaland to break the political dead-lock which had been in existence for the past six decades in Nagaland; and

(b) if so, the details of special package proposed to be implemented in Nagaland?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Dialogue with National Council of Nagalim Isac/Muivah (NSCN/IM) is continuing. It is pre-mature at this stage to indicate the details of special package being discussed.

Pending proposal for creation of new States

†3166. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposals pertaining to creation of new States are pending with Government;

(b) if so, the number of such proposals pending with Government; and

(c) the details of action taken by Government so far in this regard?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.