

(d) if so, the details thereof including the arms etc. recovered by Government during the last six months from suspected terrorists; and

(e) what is Government's reaction in regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN):

(a) and (b) Available reports suggest that Sikh Militant groups especially those based abroad, continue to persist with their efforts to revive militancy in Punjab. However, there are no specific inputs, at present, indicating nexus between Lashkar-e-Taiba and terror group like Babbar Khalsa International and Khalistan Zindabad Force.

(c) to (e) The Indian security agencies are in constant contact with their counterparts in Malaysia through established mechanism of mutual cooperation in counter terrorism effort.

Evaluation of the implementation of parts IX and IXA of the Constitution

3163. SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has evaluated the implementation of Parts IX and IXA of the Constitution in the Union Territories; and

(b) if so, the principal conclusions he has arrived at and the principal steps, if any, being taken for such course correction as may be required?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) The Third Finance Commission for Union territories of Andaman and Nicobar islands, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu and Lakshadweep set up by Ministry of Home Affairs, *inter alia*, for strengthening the Panchayat Institutions and Municipalities in the Union territories had made recommendations. After detailed examination in consultation with the aforesaid Union territories, the recommendations as finally accepted have been communicated to these Union territories for implementation.

The Government of Puducherry also set up State Finance Commission, which, *inter alia*, recommended measures to be taken towards strengthening the local self Government.

Similarly, Common Finance Commissions for the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi and Union territory of Chandigarh are also set up for the purpose of strengthening the local self Government.

Delay in obtaining assent to Bills of Maharashtra

3164. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: