

of the country. Assistance of the Interpol in screening foreigners visiting the country during any major sporting event in future would be desirable in view of its benefits.

**UN report regarding children and armed conflicts**

219. SHRI S. THANGAVELU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent UN report that deals with children and armed conflicts highlights the recruitment and use of children by Maoist armed groups in many districts affected by Maoists;

(b) if so, whether Government has voiced its strong protest against the inclusion of the maoist issue as an armed conflict and clarified that the violence by these groups does not constitute a zone of armed conflict as defined by International law; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) It has been clarified, while discussing the Report in Security Council on June 16, 2010, that India does not fall under the zone of armed conflict as defined by international law. The Government of India also condemned the abhorrent practice of naxalites using children in armed conflict and systematically attacking schools.

**Deaths due to Naxalites/Maoists attacks**

220. SHRI SABIR ALI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of deaths caused due to Naxalites/Maoists attacks since January, 2010 indicating separately the casualties of civilian as well as Jawans; and

(b) the reasons for withholding use of armed forces to make them surrender to ensure peace in the region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI AJAY MAKEN): (a) and (b) The number of civilians and security forces killed since January, 2010 to 31st October, 2010 are 577 and 264, respectively.