

Bomb Blasts in North-East States

†1342. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether terrorists had carried out blasts by bombs and other explosives in Dimapur in Nagaland and in several urban areas of Assam in the first week of October; if so, the number of innocent persons killed in these blasts;

(b) the names of terrorist organizations behind these blasts; whether there are any indications of Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI's involvement in these blasts; if so, the action Government has taken in this regard; and

(c) the initiative taken by Government to control terrorists, militants activities prevailing in Eastern States and the outcomes thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) 24 persons in Nagaland and 41 persons in Assam were killed in the violent incidents which took place in Nagaland and Assam in the first week of October, 2004.

(b) While no militant organisation has claimed responsibility for Nagaland blast, in Assam the violence was perpetrated by coordinated operations of United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA) and National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB). There is no report indicating Pak ISI's involvement in these incidents, although Pak ISI is supporting some of the North Eastern insurgent groups.

(c) Government's policy is to hold dialogue, pursue socio-economic development programmes, have right kind of laws and modernise & strengthen the Policy/Security Forces, to tackle the activities of the militants with the help of forces to protect properties, limbs and lives of innocent persons in society. During the current year, the overall violence in the North East is less compared to the same period last year.

Violence in North East

1343. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that situation in North East is getting worse with every passing day;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that Nagaland is again in the grip of violence with recent several major bomb blasts at Dimapur, Dhubra and Bongaigaon resulting in the death of several innocent persons;

(c) if so, what are details of casualties in those blasts; and

(d) whether Government have evolved any strategy to restore calm in North East and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) No, Sir. During the current year, the overall violence in the North East is less than the corresponding period of the last year.

(b) The Situation in Nagaland is by and large normal except incident of bomb blasts in Dimapur on 02.10.04.

(c) In Dimapur bomb blast 24 persons were killed and several others injured. In the incidents which took place in Assam on 2nd & 5th October, 2004, 41 persons were killed and many others injured.

(d) Government's policy is to hold dialogue, develop, do social justice, have right kind of laws and modernize & strengthen the Police/Security Forces, to tackle the activities of the militants with the help of forces to protect properties, limbs and lives of innocent persons in society.

Fencing within Zero Line at Indo-Bangladesh Border

1344. SHRIMATI BIMBA RAIKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether to tackle infiltration of militant groups from Bangladesh Government have decided to erect fences within 150 yards of the Zero Line along Indo-Bangladesh borders;

(b) whether as per the ground rule agreed to by Border Security Force and Bangladeshi Rifles in 1975 no defensive structure can be erected within 150 yards of the Zero line; and

(c) whether Government expect stiff Bangladeshi resistance to this move for fencing the border within 150 yards of the Zero Line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir. It has been decided to construct the