

[22 December, 2004]

RAJYA SAB HA

Controversy over census data

2084. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE:
SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have instituted any inquiry into the controversy over the census data on the religious compositions of country's population; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. An internal inquiry has been made. A mistake has been committed in the Report on Religion data released on 6th September, 2004. It was not mentioned in the Brief Analysis that the growth rates were based on unadjusted figures. Appropriate warning is being issued to the concerned.

Guidelines have been issued to the Office of RGI that whenever any changes are made in the format or analysis—it should be done after due technical diligence, be carefully vetted and an explicit mention should be made of the departure so as to avoid confusion and misinterpretation of the data by the users.

Seizure of boxes during Operation Blue Star

2085. SHRI S.S.AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether following Operation Blue Star in June, 1984, the authorities took custody of several boxes from the precincts of the Golden Temple, Amritsar;

(b) the details of number of boxes taken over and in whose custody these were lying since then;

(c) whether custody of the seized boxes has recently been transferred to the Siromani Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee (SGPC) and the boxes have been opened for public viewing of its contents; and

(d) if so, the details of the boxes so handed over, authorities which had sealed them and those who opened it, and items which the boxes found to be containing?