

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Requests for conferring Bharat Ratna to Sachin Tendulkar have been received from various quarters.

(c) and (d) According to President's Secretariat's Notification No. 1-Pers./55 dated 8.1.1955, Bharat Ratna is awarded for exceptional services in arts, literature and science, and in recognition of public services of the highest order. A suggestion regarding modification in the existing eligibility norms has been received and is under consideration of the Government.

(e) Does not arise.

Special security package for Punjab

375. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Punjab Government has urged the Central Government recently to sanction a special security package for the State to enable it to meet security threats owing to recent developments in the neighbouring country; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government of Punjab in the year 2010-11 made a request to the Ministry of Home Affairs for providing financial assistance of Rs. 1.20 crores towards the cost of jammers for Punjab Police in order to prevent the terrorists and anti national elements from executing their nefarious designs. The request of the State Government of Punjab was considered and funds amounting to Rs. 1.20 crores have been released to the State Government.

Regional hubs of NSG

376. SHRI BHARATSINH PRABHATSINH PARMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to set up regional hubs of National Security Guards in different parts of the country after the terrorist attack in Mumbai on 26th November, 2008 and 13th July, 2011;

(b) if so, how many regional hubs of NSG are being set up by Government and at what locations;

- (c) whether it is a fact that no regional hub is being set up in Gujarat; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH):
(a) and (b) The Government has established four Regional Hubs of National Security Guard (NSG) at Chennai, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Mumbai. These hubs have been operationlised on 30th June/1st July 2009.

(c) and (d) On receipt of a request from Government of Gujarat, the Government of India has conveyed 'in principle' approval for setting up of a NSG Regional Hub in Gujarat, subject to the Government of Gujarat providing land free of cost, at the location found suitable by the NSG.

Amending law to take action against anti-national speeches

377. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is unable to order probe against the persons who make anti-national speeches;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government considers to amend the law in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH):
(a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) and (e) Does not arise.

Spurt in maoist killings

378. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of killing civilian people along with the personnel of police forces by the Maoists have gone up in recent past in several States;