

Srikrishna report on Telangana

237. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) when was the Srikrishna report on the Telangana issue received by the Central Government;
- (b) whether the Central Government has accepted any of the options recommended by the Commission;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (d) The Srikrishna Committee had submitted its report on 31.12.2010. Following the submission of the report, a meeting of all the major political parties represented in the Andhra Pradesh State Legislature was convened on January 6, 2011 and requested them to consider the Committee's report and form an opinion in this regard. The Government of India is keeping a close watch on the political developments as well as on the law and order situation in the State.

Ban on manufacture/sale of unlicensed firearms

238. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that the availability of a large number of unlicensed firearms is a key factor behind increase in crimes across the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Union Government in consultation with the State Governments proposes to take any steps to ban manufacture/sale of unlicensed firearms across the country; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir. As per statistics published by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) while total cognizable crimes in 2010 has reportedly gone up by 21.9% crimes like possession of unlicensed fire arms, etc. reported under the Arms Act, 1959, have gone down by 1.1% in 2010 over the last five year average and there is no correlation between these two. Further, the proportion of murders committed by use of fire arms, which was 16.5% in 2006, declined to 9% in 2010 according to NCRB report.

(b) and (c) Unlicensed manufacture/sale of unlicensed firearms are already punishable crimes under the Arms Act, 1959.