

Status of separate States to Kashmir and Jammu

1142. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KASHYAP : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to State:

(a) Whether Government is considering to give the status of separate States to Kashmir and Jammu like several other States *i.e.* Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh and give the status of Union Territory to Leh Laddakh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the reaction of Government thereto?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Allowing Maoist-hit States to acquire helicopters

1143. SHRI SANJAY RAUT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre is allowing Maoist-hit States including Maharashtra to hire helicopters on their own from private firms to use them for anti-Naxal operations till it acquires; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b) Under the Security Related Expenditure (SRE) Scheme, the MHA has 'in-principle' approved hiring of one helicopter each by the LWE affected States for providing air-support to Anti-naxal operations, subject to the prior approval of the MHA. The State of Maharashtra has hired one helicopter from M/s. Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited for Anti-naxal operations.

Common man insecure due to terrorist activities

1144. SHRI RAMCHANDRA PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the common man's security problem is getting more and more serious due to increasing terrorist activities in India;