Security of religious places in view of Bodh Gaya blasts

 $408.\ DR.\ JANARDHAN\ WAGHMARE:$ Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Bodh Gaya temple complex in Bihar was rocked by a series of explosions on 7th July, 2013;
 - (b) if so, the number of casualties as a result of series of explosions;
 - (c) whether any terrorist outfit has taken responsibility for the blasts;

- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the National Investigation Agency has since examined the site/ area and submitted its report to the Union Government; and

[RAJYA SABHA]

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Union Government to ensure safety of various religious places across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. 10 (Ten) serial bomb blasts took place in the Mahabodhi Temple at Bodh Gaya in Bihar on 7th July, 2013.

- (b) There was no casualty.
- (c) and (d) No known terrorist group has taken responsibility of the blasts.
- (e) and (f) The case has been transferred to National Investigation Agency (NIA) for investigation, which is going on. 'Law and Order' is a State subject as per the 7th Schedule of the Constitution of India. However, there exists a very close and effective coordination amongst intelligence agencies at the Centre and the State levels to monitor the activities of terrorist organizations. Intelligence inputs about possible designs and threats are shared with the State Governments concerned on a regular basis. The Multi Agency Centre (MAC) has been strengthened and reorganized to enable it to function on 24x7 basis for real time collation and sharing of intelligence with other intelligence agencies and security intelligence inputs are shared with the concerned States through the established mechanism, which ensures close coordination and sharing of intelligence and seamless flow of information between the States and the Central Security and Law Enforcement Agency. This has resulted in busting of many terror modules, averting major terror attack planning.

Bomb blast of Mahabodhi Temple

†409. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ten bomb blasts took place at Mahabodhi Temple in Bihar on 7th July, 2013;

[†] Original notice of the question was received in Hindi