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disease outbreaks and epidemics. Expertise in Management of Disaster for more than 25 years providing medical care facilities during the disasters, floods, earthquake 2005, manmade strife (during blasts/grenade attacks, snow catastrophes/Avalanches, landslides, terrorist attacks during kargil war & shelling in boarder areas of Gurez, Tangdar, Uri kargil and other border areas, fire accident in Army Ammunition Depot Khandroo besides management of health services for more than 14 years. He has more than 120 publication in National and International Journals and written 6 books on disaster management.)

Security provided under provisions of SPG Act

1016. SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR ROY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) which functionaries of Union Government are provided security under Special Protection Group (SPG) Act, 1988 and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether any individual not being a family member of Ex-Prime Minister is provided security coverage in violation of provisions of SPG Act and the details thereof;

(c) which categories of individuals are provided security on positional basis and the details thereof;

(d) how many present and former Members of Parliament, bureaucrats and private persons get security based on threat perceptions; and

(e) which authority makes assessment of threat perception and the details of mechanism thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The Special Protection Group (SPG) Act, 1988 provides for a Force to provide proximate security cover to:

- (i) the Prime Minister and the members of his immediate family, and
 - (ii) any former Prime Minister or to the members of his immediate family.
- (b) No, Sir.

(c) Apart from the President, Vice-President and Prime Minister, whose security arrangements are made as per special instructions, positional security cover is provided to Speaker of the Lok Sabha, Union Ministers, Chief Justice and Justices of the Supreme Court, Chief Justice and Justices of the High Courts and Governors and Chief Ministers of States and other high dignitaries.

(d) and (e) The responsibility for providing security to an individual rests primarily with the State Government, in whose jurisdiction an individual is ordinarily resident or, for the time being, happens to be. State Governments have their own mechanism for assessing threats in respect of individuals under their jurisdiction and maintain their own lists of protectees.

As regards protectees in the Central List, security is provided to them on the basis of comprehensive assessment of threat carried out by the Central Security Agencies. This security cover is subject to periodic review and is continued/withdrawn/downgraded/upgraded, based on the latest threat assessment. Thus, the number of protectees who have threat-based security cover is not constant. As on date, there are a total of 208 threat-based protectees of various categories in the Central List.

MoU for tourist visa-on-arrival facility

1017. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS he pleased to state:

- (a) whether Tourist Visa-on-Arrival scheme has been introduced by Government for the tourists from some countries;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether similar facilities will be provided by such countries for Indian tourists visiting those countries; and
- (d) whether any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed?