

Rise in crimes arising out of consumption of alcohol

384. DR. K.P. RAMALINGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that alcohol spurred crime is on the rise in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has asked the State Governments to take appropriate steps to prevent the rise of crimes arising out of consumption of alcohol; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) A direct causal link between consumption of alcohol and commission of crime in exclusion of all other factors, which culminates in the commission of crime, has not yet been established.

(c) and (d) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, and therefore, the State Governments are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and for prosecuting the criminals through the machinery of their law enforcement agencies as also for protecting the life and property of the citizens. The Union Government, however, attaches highest importance to the matter of prevention of crime and therefore, has continued to urge to the State Governments/UT Administrations to give more focused attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system and take such measures as are necessary for prevention and control of crime.

AFSPA

385. SHRI AVINASH PANDE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the Supreme Court notice challenging the extension of Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958 (AFSPA) in Manipur;

(b) what is the Government's stand on the same;

(c) whether Government realizes the inconvenience and harassment faced by the inhabitants of the regions where the AFSPA is in place;

(d) whether Government plans to take any immediate or any action in the near future to deal with the aforementioned issue;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A detailed counter-Affidavit on behalf of Union of India has been filed in response of the Writ Petition (Civil) No. 445 of 2012.

(c) to (f) For preventing misuse of powers under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958, guidelines containing 'Do's & Don't's' for the Armed Forces deployed in Counter Insurgency Operations have been issued as per the directions of Supreme Court in Naga People's Movement of Human Rights verses Union of India. Violation of these guidelines by members of the Armed Forces make them liable for prosecution under the Army Act and the respective Acts of the Central Armed Police Forces. The Chief of Army Staff has issued 'Ten Commandments' to the troops deployed in Counter Insurgency Operations to guide them while conducting the operations. The Human Rights Cell established at various levels of Army and the Central Armed Police Forces regularly monitor complaints on human rights violations, by the members of the Armed Forces. The troops are sensitized at regular intervals regarding the importance of upholding Human Rights. The guidelines are strictly adhered to.

Revamping cyber security apparatus

386. SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any road map with the Ministry to revamp the entire cyber security apparatus of critical sectors in the country in order to meet the challenge of cyber attacks and security in the virtual world;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what steps are being taken by the Ministry to create awareness and ensure setting up of a robust security system in all critical Government agencies at their own level; and