

**Youths recruited as SPOS in J and K**

1476. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether in Jammu and Kashmir a large number of youths were recruited as Special Police Officials (SPOs) to fight against terrorists and form Village Defence Committee (VDC) and Block Development Council (BDC);

(b) whether the army officer with whom they worked in operation recommended their name to select them in Police;

(c) whether PO named Yogesh Kumar, Belt No. 1035 killed 12 terrorists along with army and was recommended by the Army for the post of constable;

(d) the status of his case; and

(e) the policy of Government with regard to VDC and BDC and steps proposed for making these more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

**Statutory development board for North Maharashtra**

1477. DR. BHARATKUMAR RAUT : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the present status of the proposal of constitution of a separate Statutory Development Board for North Maharashtra which is long pending with the Central Government;

(b) whether to constitute the Board, an amendment is required to Article 371(2)(a) of the Constitution;

(c) if so, whether Government is planning to amend Article 371(2)(a); and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH) : (a) to (d) Sir, The Government of Maharashtra, had requested