

Serial blasts in Gandhi Maidan, Patna

*202. SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether prior to serial blasts in Gandhi Maidan, Patna, Intelligence Bureau (IB) had relayed specific input to the State Government warning such terror attack;

(b) if so, the subsequent action taken by the Union Government in coordination with the State Government to avoid its occurrence;

(c) whether Bihar Government was offered custody of Indian Mujahideen (IM) mastermind Yasin Bhatkal, if so, what was their response; and

(d) whether terror mastermind of Gandhi Maidan blasts, Tehseen Akhtar escaped arrest from a Mangalore flat earlier because of the leakage of the news of Yasin Bhatkal's arrest, if so, the reasons for such a crucial operational leak?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) The local Police was sensitized by the Intelligence Bureau (IB) on the security threat faced by the Chief Minister of Gujarat from Pak based terrorist groups including the IM besides other fundamentalist groups. In view of the threat perception to the Gandhi Maidan rally, Advanced Security Liaison (ASL) was conducted on 25th and 26th October, 2013 for the visit of the Chief Minister of Gujarat on 27th October, 2013. The security arrangements were also discussed by IB officers with the officials of Bihar Police.

(c) On August 29, 2013, Yasin Bhatkal, mastermind of IM and Asadullah Akhtar, IM activist were arrested from Raxaul, Bihar on Indo-Nepal border by the National Investigation Agency (NIA).

(d) Investigation in NIA cases have not revealed any evidence to substantiate such a claim till date.

Suggestions regarding police reforms

*203. DR. T.N. SEEMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any suggestions/memoranda from social organisations and others regarding police reforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof and total number of such suggestions/memoranda received during each of the last three years and current year;