

the year 2014. The red sanders are found only in India and its demand in international market is very high and the wood fetches very high price.

(c) to (e) The protection and conservation of forests is the responsibility of the State Governments. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau is supporting the State Governments in combating the Wildlife Crime including smuggling of Red Sanders. The Bureau also coordinates with the enforcement agencies in intelligence gathering and passes of the information to enforcement agencies and also takes up the issues relating to illegal trade in wildlife with various foreign authorities including neighbouring countries and international organizations such as INTERPOL and CITES Secretariat. Central agencies like Customs and Directorate of Revenue intelligence have also seized Red Sanders wood at ports and other locations in the country.

Strengthening internal security and intelligence sharing mechanism

2988. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is strengthening the internal security and intelligence sharing mechanism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the coordination mechanism that exists between the State agencies and the Central agency;

(d) whether Government has received any fresh threat-inputs through the sea route from the intelligence agencies;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto; and

(f) the steps taken by Government to strengthen the security *vis-a-vis* sea routes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) to (c) Government is committed to strengthening the internal security of the country. A robust mechanism for intelligence sharing among the various States and Central agencies is in place in the country. Intelligence inputs are shared regularly by various Intelligence Agencies on real time basis on Multi-Agency Centre-Subsidiary Multi-Agency Centre (MAC-SMAC) Network with the Law Enforcing Agencies including the State Police Forces. So far, 374 sites have been made functional all over the country having connectivity with the MAC headquarters.

National Memory Bank (NMB), which is a Central Data Bank for Counter Terrorism related information, has been connected with 374 nodes, including State Intelligence,

State Police and all MAC Member Agencies, with effect from 7th June, 2012.

At MAC Headquarters, activities of MAC include daily Nodal Officer's meetings at MAC Headquarters, monthly on Cross Border Terrorism (CBT) in J&K and NE, fortnightly meeting on Left Wing Extremism (LWE), Focus Groups Meetings, etc. From January, 2014 to June, 2014, J&K (CBT) meetings-6, North-East Insurgency related meetings-6, LWE related assessment meetings-11 and 7 Focus Group meeting on important inputs, have been held during the year 2014 till date. During such meetings, intelligence inputs are shared and discussed with concerned agencies/State Police. At the State level SMAC meetings attended by State Police and other agencies and, are held at least every fortnight. Available inputs are discussed and followed up.

Also, at present, inter-State Intelligence Support Teams (ISISTs) have been formed in 25 States and 4 Union Territories.

(d) to (f) A few inputs from various channels have been received by the Central Intelligence Agency in last one year, which suggests plans of various terrorist groups to infiltrate in the country through coastal areas to launch attacks.

All such inputs have been shared with concerned Forces/Agencies and MAC meetings/focus groups meetings on such inputs have been held to deliberate the inputs develop them further, undertake pursuant action by concerned agencies to augment security and neutralize the threat.

Committee to improve the working of police

†2989. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has any plan to constitute a Committee to improve the working of States' police and other police organisations in the country to combat terrorism and strengthen the internal security system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Committee has been constituted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU): (a) to (d) A Task Force under the Chairmanship of Shri Naresh Chandra had been constituted on 1st July, 2011 by the Government of India to review the existing processes, procedures and practices in the national security system and suggest

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.