

Safety of Kashmiri students outside their State

*80. SHRI NAZIR AHMED LAWAY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, owing to the past incidents against Kashmiri students outside their State, Government has taken any step to ensure their safety; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR): (a) and (b) As law and order is a State subject, the primary responsibility for the safety and security of students, whichever part of the country they come from, is that of the State Government. However, Ministry of Home Affairs has issued advisories to all the States/ UTs from time to time to ensure safety of students of J&K who are studying in various part of the country outside J&K.

Based on the advice of the Ministry of Home Affairs, States/UTs have designated a Nodal Police Officer to whom the complaints of harassment of the students of Kashmir studying in their States could be conveyed for timely necessary action.

In addition to the above, Ministry of Home Affairs has also nominated a Director level officer of the Ministry as the Nodal Officer for handling grievances relating to J&K persons particularly students residing outside J&K.

Prison reforms

*81. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether prison reforms have been undertaken/proposed to be taken to prevent prison breaks;

(b) how many prison breaks have taken place in the last three years, the State-wise, prison-wise, year-wise details thereof;

(c) how many prisoners have escaped in such prison breaks, the details for each prison break;

(d) how many such prison breaks have resulted in encounter of escaped prisoners, the details for each prison break; and

(e) how many such encounters have been investigated either by State police or by specialized agencies like NIA, etc.?