

(c) whether the retirement of Jaguar aircrafts from the Air Force is being considered, if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether any other sophisticated aircrafts are being purchased as a substitute of Jaguar aircrafts; and

(e) if so, the name of the aircraft and the country where from such aircrafts are being purchased?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) A total number of 38 Jaguar aircrafts were destroyed since induction. In these accidents 12 pilots were killed.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. Jaguars were inducted into Indian Air Force after stringent flight evaluations. The aircraft has a proven track record and is in front line service with many Air Forces of the world. Apart from minor snags, which are common to any military aircraft, there have been no persistent major problems with any of the main system of this aircraft which may warrant phasing out of the aircraft.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Arrest of call girls by Delhi Police

806. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Police had recently arrested a large number of call girls from various places in the capital;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof during the last three months; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that one of the hotel owner who had been running the racket had amassed wealth to the extent of hundred of crores and if so, the details thereof and what action has been taken against him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGHUPATHY): (a) and (b) During the period from 1st April, 2004 to 10th July, 2004, Delhi Police arrested 125 women from various parts of Delhi under "The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956";

(c) In connection with a case registered against the owner of a hotel in

April, 2004 under "The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 2004, Delhi Police recovered a sum of Rs. 6,00,500/- in cash from the Hotel. The owner, during his interrogation, also disclosed that he had invested part of the ill-gotten money earned by him in property and business.

Re-assessment of norms regarding National calamities

†807. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States, including Uttaranchal have made any demand for reassessment of all the norms regarding national calamities; and

(b) if so, the details of the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Some States including the Uttaranchal had requested for revision of norms and inclusion of certain items in the approved list of items for expenditure from the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF)/National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

The scheme of CRF is governed by the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission (2000-05), which also has a provision for setting up of an Inter-Ministerial Expert Group including the representatives of the State Governments for review of norms and items of assistance from CRF/NCCF. Accordingly Expert Groups were set up to consider the proposals received from the State Governments and necessary revisions made from time to time, in the norms, keeping in view the scheme of CRF.

Militants team to assassinate political leaders

808. SHRI SHANKAR ROY CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been able to confirm that militant groups in Jammu and Kashmir have despatched teams to Gujarat and Maharashtra to assassinate political leaders and demolish the Mumbai Stock Exchange building as stated in the media by the Jammu and Kashmir and Gujarat Police; and

(b) If so, whether Government are in a position to provide assurances that necessary steps to counter these groups in Maharashtra and Gujarat are being taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGHUPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.