

Drug trafficking through India

2258. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level Indian delegation headed by DG, Narcotics Central Bureau attended a meeting in Pakistan to raise the issue of drug trafficking through India by some Pakistani druglords from the Pastun dominated areas of Afghanistan and Central Asia;

(b) if so, the conclusions of the said meeting; and

(c) the measures taken by Government for curbing the transit of drugs through India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY) (a) and (b) India-Pakistan Director General level talks on drug related matters were held on 15-16 June, 2004 in Islamabad. The agenda for the talks included, *inter-alia*, drugs situation in the region, sharing of intelligence and assistance in investigation of cases. Both sides agreed to the need for timely exchange of information on matters relating to trafficking of drugs, maintain vigilance to prevent any possible trafficking of drugs, precursor chemicals and psychotropic substances, and share each others experience in the field of combating drug trafficking.

(c) Government of India has taken a number of steps for curbing transit of drugs through India. These include:—

- (i) strict surveillance and enforcement at import and export points, land borders, airports, foreign post offices etc.
- (ii) intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug routes.
- (iii) improved coordination between various drug law enforcement agencies in order to impart greater cohesion to interdiction.
- (iv) identification of illicit cultivation of the opium poppy and the wild growth of cannabis and eradication of these sources of supply.
- (v) strengthening of international liaison to improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of operational intelligence.
- (vi) increased international co-operation for exchange of information and investigative assistance in administering control over the movement of precursor chemicals.

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RAJYA SABHA

- (vii) building of an electronic data base of offenders.
- (viii) conducting training programmes for law enforcement officials for upgrading their skills to combat drug trafficking.

Strength of officers/staff in Tihar Jail

2259. SHRILALITSURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the sanctioned strength of the officers and staff, cadre-wise of Tihar Jail in Delhi as on 31st March, 2004;
- (b) the actual number of the officers and staff, cadre-wise, working there as on the same date; and
- (c) the action taken/proposed to be taken to bridge the gap between the sanctioned and the actual strength of the officers and staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The sanctioned strength of officers and staff in Tihar Jail and the number of officials in position as on 31st March, 2004 were as mentioned below:

SI. No.	Cadre	Number of	Number of posts
	Sanctioned posts		filled up
1.	Jail Cadre	1373	872
2.	Medical and Para Medical Cadre	178	132
3.	Delhi Administrative Subordinate staff	150	105
	TOTAL:	1701	1109

- (c) All the vacant posts have been notified to the concerned recruiting/deputing agencies and the department is pursuing the matter with them for filling up the vacant posts at the earliest.

Overcrowding in Tihar Jail

2260. SHRI LALIT SURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Delhi's Tihar Jail is overcrowded;