

(c) whether Government propose to undertake this exercise of categorization as "federal crimes"; and

(d) if so, what is the time-frame and details regarding constitution of any specialized body to undertake this task?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) In pursuance of the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition No. 310 of 1996 in the matter of Shri Prakash Singh and other versus Union of India and Others, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has filed their views regarding 'Federal Crimes and their investigation by a Central Agency' before the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the said case and has, *inter-alia*, recommended that Central Bureau of Investigation should have concurrent jurisdiction to investigate federal crimes. The matter is *sub-judice*.

(b) to (d) As far as Government of India is concerned, the matter is being discussed with the State Governments and, as such, it is not possible to indicate any details or time-frame at this stage.

Banning horse racing in Karnataka

2349. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal by the Karnataka Government to ban horse racing in the same way as lottery was banned;

(b) if so, when it will come into effect; and;

(c) whether there is a plan to shift Bangalore Turf Club to some other place?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government of Karnataka.

Rise in loot and murder in Delhi

†2350. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidents of loot and murders are on the increase in the recent months in Delhi at the time of withdrawing money from the banks, and the places like Noida, Ring Road, Mayur Vihar-I and Karol Bagh are prominent places among them for such incidents; and

(b) if so, whether the Delhi Police are working on the possibilities of some sort of connivance between the banks and looters for tipping off the information to the latter regarding withdrawal of money from the banks?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) to (b) During the year 2007 (upto 31st July), only two such cases, one each at Police Station Karol Bagh and Mayur Vihar, were registered in this regard by Delhi Police. Interrogation of the accused in above cases has not revealed any connivance between the banks and looters for tipping off the information to the latter regarding withdrawing of money from the banks.

Request by Karnataka to Centre for flood and drought relief

2351. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka had requested for Central assistance of Rs.2858.57 Crores and 5.74 MT of foodgrains for relief measures undertaken in connection with the last unprecedented flood and drought in the State;

(b) if so, the details of assistance released so far and the targeted date for release of the balance assistance;

(c) whether Karnataka is again facing torrential rains during the current monsoon along its coast, resulting in sea erosion and heavy loss of property; and

(d) if so, the details of Central assistance proposed to be given to Karnataka for meeting the present natural calamity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI): (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka requested for additional financial assistance of Rs. 1895.61 crore (including Rs. 1237.93 crore for repair/restoration of damaged infrastructure) for relief operations in the wake of heavy rains/floods during 2006. The State Government also sought Rs. 1406.01 crore and 5.74 lakh MTs of foodgrains for management of drought during 2006. These requests of the State Government were considered as per the laid down procedure and the following assistance were approved by the High Level Committee (HLC) as per details given below:

(i) Floods/heavy rains

- (a) Release of Rs. 125.67 crore from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) subject to the adjustment of 75% of the balance available in the CRF account of the State for the instant calamity.
- (b) Release of Rs. 10.00 crore from Special Component of Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP).
- (c) Allocation of 17,100 MT foodgrains from Special Component of Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), subject to its being lifted and utilized within three months from the date of issuance of orders.

(ii) Drought

- (a) Release of Rs. 74.48 crore from NCCF subject to the adjustment of 75% of balance available in the CRF account.