

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) A non-governmental organisation made suggestion to the Law Commission of India that all cases of sexual assault should be tried by special courts which shall be manned by judges, prosecutors and counsellors 'specially trained/sensitised to issues of sexual assault'. The Law Commission has not included this as part of its recommendation.

(c) The recommendations of the Law Commission of India would be examined in consultation with the State Governments, as Criminal Law is on the Concurrent List in the seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India.

Convention of Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons

1796. SHRI C. M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a convention organised by the "Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons" held in Srinagar on August 30, 2000; and

(b) if so, what specific demands were voiced thereat and what was Government's response thereto indicating the number of persons disappeared during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENIVIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) Reports received in the Ministry indicate that the Association of Parents of Disappeared Persons (APDP), organised a meeting (40/50) at Taj Hotel, Srinagar on August 30, 2000. Among others, the meeting was attended by Nazeer Ahmed Ronga, President, Bar Association, Srinagar and Parvez Imroz, a local Human Rights Activist.

However, the Government has not received any formal communication from the said Association so far in this regard.

Further, the report received from the State Government indicate that as many as 527 allegations of disappearances were received by HR Cell of CID HQs of Jammu & Kashmir from 1.1.1992 to 31.12.1999, which were thoroughly probed into. Out of 527 cases, 490 were found false, 12 cases were closed as challaned, 16 untraced and 09 cases are under investigation/verification.