

of Maharashtra has intimated that solitary confinement and anda cell (*i.e.* high security cell) are different. The Government of Maharashtra has also intimated that no prisoner has been kept in solitary confinement for nine years.

- (c) Question does not arise.

#### **Establishment of more IRBs in Karnataka**

2601. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any proposal from the State Government of Karnataka for the establishment of more India Reserve Battalions (IRBs) due to insufficient strength of Karnataka Special Reserve Police (KSRP) in the State to maintain law and order;

(b) if so, the present number of battalions in the State and the number of new battalions proposed to be established; and

- (c) the details thereof and the status of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) to (c) Two India Reserve Battalions have already been sanctioned to Karnataka. Government of Karnataka has requested for 2 new India Reserve Battalions.

The India Reserve Battalions are sanctioned to the States based on the internal security scenario and threat perception. Government of India is getting an Impact Assessment Study done on the India Reserve Battalions Scheme. Sanction of new India Reserve Battalion is dependent on the outcome of the Study.

#### **A.P. Reorganisation Act**

2602. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that former NITI Aayog Deputy Chairman, Panagaria, submitted a Report on implementation of assurances given in the A.P. Reorganisation Act;

(b) if so, the details of each of the recommendations made with regard to revenue deficit, institutions under Tenth Schedule, resources for Amaravati, financial assistance to backward districts, Polavaram, Dugarajapatnam port and petrochemical complex under A.P. Reorganisation Act, 2014; and

(c) how Government justifies that implementation of A.P. Reorganisation Act, 2014, would not impact other States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI NITYANAND RAI): (a) and (b) Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog submitted a Report in December, 2015 on Developmental support to the successor State of Andhra Pradesh under Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. This report *inter alia* contains recommendations on the assurances given by the then Prime Minister in the Parliament. The report contains recommendations for providing central assistance to State of Andhra Pradesh in the Externally Aided Projects in addition to tax incentives, grant for bridging the resource gap pertaining to financial year 2014-15, assistance for development of seven (7) districts of Rayalaseema and North Coastal Andhra, financial assistance for the development of new capital, execution of Polavaram Irrigation Project by Government of Andhra Pradesh under technical supervision of Government of India, expeditious action to establish a new major port, fast tracking of establishment of educational institutions, expediting the feasibility of establishing a green field refinery and petrochemical complex, etc.

(c) Provisions of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014 are related to successor States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana only and may not impact other States.

#### **Relaxation in internship visa rules**

2603. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has relaxed the internship visa rules to include students who are still pursuing a course in the country without remuneration;

(b) whether it is also a fact that earlier only a graduate who was drawing remuneration could obtain internship visa; and