

injuries and all were medically examined. No one was killed in this incident. Some private cars and property were also damaged. Some of the rioters involved have been identified.

The safety measures taken by Delhi Police include deployment of Police personnel both inside and outside the JNU Campus, liaison with students and University Administration to maintain peace, deployment of Police personnel in plain clothes around the Campus, stationing of PCR Van in the vicinity of JNU Campus and briefing of students and Administration to report to Police immediately, if any violent/ unwanted activities come to notice in the premises of the Campus. JNU has informed that they have deployed 277 private security personnel 24x7 in JNU Campus.

Use of Section 144 of CrPC to quell dissent

401. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Supreme Court of India has recently declared that Section 144 of Code of Criminal Procedure cannot be used to quell dissent in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has issued or proposes to issue advisory to States in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI G. KISHAN REDDY): (a) and (b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Order dated 10.01.2020 has *inter alia* held that the power under Section 144, Cr.P.C cannot be used to suppress legitimate expression of opinion or grievance or exercise of any democratic right.

(c) and (d) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibilities to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens are with the respective State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with the offences under the extant provisions of the law.