

[13 December, 2000]      RAJYA SABHA

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Talks with NSCN (I/M) are continuing and it would not be in public interest to reveal the details at this stage.

**Government's intervention in the release of Rajkumar**

**2600. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intervened at any point of time to help and release actor Rajkumar from Veerapan's captivity; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO):**

(a) and (b) 'Public Order' and 'Police' are State subjects and therefore maintenance of law and order is the primary responsibility of the State Governments. It is for the State Governments to devise various methods and take concrete steps to improve the law and order situation. However, the Central Government had sensitised the concerned agencies to remain in complete readiness for providing assistance to the State Governments as and when required by them.

**New Anti-terrorism Bill.**

**2601. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:** Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to bring forward a new Anti-terrorism Bill in the current Session of Parliament;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposed legislation;

(c) whether it is a fact that proposed Bill has some draconian provisions which have attracted severe criticism from several quarters and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government would review some of its repressive provisions and if not, the reasons therefor?