

between the New Delhi Municipal Council and the Advertising agency regarding the actual number of electric poles available for display or advertisements and proportionate reduction in the licence fee payable to the New Delhi Municipal Council. While the matter is presently subjudice, the bank guarantee furnished by the agency continues to be alive.

Violence at Marad, Kerala

1075. SHRI A. VIJAYARAGHAVAN:
SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI V. V. RAGHAVAN:
SHRI N. K. PREMACHANDRAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that communal violence erupted at Marad causing loss of lives and properties during January, 2002; if so, the number of persons murdered;

(b) whether there is any attempt to rehabilitate the refugees at Marad, Kerala after the Marad Massacre during May, 2003;

(c) if so, the details including the action taken for communal symbiosis at Marad;

(d) whether many suspects were taken under custody and got on to the trials of the culprits;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) the action taken to inquire the Marad Massacre; and

(g) the details of steps taken to prevent such incidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI) : (a) Communal incidents occurred in the Marad area of Kozhikode District, Kerala during the first week of January, 2002. As per available information, 5 persons were killed in the incidents.

(b) to (g) Violence erupted in another incident at Marad during May, 2003 leading to communal tension in the area. As per information

made available by the State Government, 65 persons were arrested after the incidents. The State Government has been advised to initiate confidence building measures to restore communal harmony, strengthen security arrangements in the communally sensitive areas, sanction ex-gratia relief in case of those killed or injured in the violence and also consider grant of compensation for loss or damage to property/ belongings suffered by the residents. The State Government has assured that all requisite steps are being taken in this regard and has also ordered a judicial inquiry into the incident. Police and Public Order being State subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, details regarding attempt to rehabilitate the refugees, status of investigation of cases and trial etc. are not centrally maintained by the Government.

Helpline for women

1076. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi Police has recently started a 24 hour helpline for women;

(b) if so, the response on the same;

(c) whether the same is being done by other States police; and

(d) if so, the details of States/cities that have a similar helpline for women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Within less than eleven months of introduction of this Service, Delhi Police received as many as 2058 calls for help which is indicative of the encouraging response to the Service.

(c) and (d) The "law and order" being a State subject, the information in regard to such details of the functioning of State police Forces are not maintained centrally.