

the Ministers and MPs between 1 December, 1989 to 30 June, 1990;

(b) whether there is any proposal to fix the number of telephones to be released on priority on the recommendations of the MPs; and

(c) the criteria for sanctioning telephone on the recommendations of MPs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

(b) and (c). The recommendations on MPs for sanction of telephone connections are given due consideration and telephones are sanctioned on merits. Though no decision has so far been taken for fixing the number of telephones to be released on priority on the basis of the recommendations of the M.Ps, such recommendations are given due consideration and telephones sanctioned on priority subject to their merits

[Translation]

Strength of Home-Guards in Madhya Pradesh

3565 SHRI S.C. VARMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether a proposal to increase the strength of Home Guards in Madhya Pradesh has been sent by the State Government to Union Government;

(b) if so, when and whether Union Government have accorded approval to the proposal; and

(c) if not, the present position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) Yes, Sir. Union Government received two proposals from the State Government to increase the strength of Home Guards in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Approval of the Union Government on the first proposal for increase of strength by 10% of the existing authorized strength which works to of 1700, has been accorded and conveyed to the State Government on 16th August, 1990.

(c) The second proposal of the State Government for further increase in strength of Home Guards is under consideration of the Union Government

[English]

Issue of Passports to Applicants from Mizoram & Nagaland

3568 DR. C. SILVERA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the requests for issue of passports received from people of Mizoram and Nagaland are subject to Police verification by State Government as well as by Union Home Ministry;

(b) if so, the details of relevant rules in this regard;

(c) whether same practice is followed on applications received from people from other States;

(d) if not, the reasons for different treatment for applicants from Mizoram and Nagaland;

(e) whether Government propose to lay down uniform practice of police verification for all the Indian citizens alike; and