

Pick-pocketing in Capital

2165. { Shri P. C. Borooah:
 { Shri Rameshwar Tanti:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pick-pockets operate in well-organised gangs in the capital and also on inter-township level;

(b) if so, the number of cases of pick-pocketing which were reported in the capital during 1963, 1964 and 1965 (so far); and

(c) the steps taken to curb the menace and how far these have proved effective?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) No such gang has come to the notice of Delhi Police;

(b) 1082 cases were reported in 1963, 1191 in 1964 and 739 in 1965 (upto the end of August);

(c) Some of the important steps that have been taken to curb the incidence of pick-pocketing in the Capital are as follows:

- (i) Policemen in plain clothes are specially deputed at important bus stops and other places of public resort to spot out known pick-pockets.
- (ii) Recently, photographs of notorious pick-pockets have been prepared so that police station staff can enforce surveillance effectively.
- (iii) All pick-pockets who are captured on the spot are interrogated in the interrogation centre of the Crime Branch with a view to detect gang activity or other pick-pocketing cases.
- (iv) Efforts are being made to keep up-to-date record of the activities of known pick-pockets, including their previous convictions, so that deterrent punishments may be insisted on u/s 78 of the Indian Penal Code.

As a result of the steps taken, the number of pick-pocketing cases have dropped from 749 in 1964 (upto the end of August) to 739 in the corresponding period of 1965.

Lotteries

2166. { Shri P. C. Borooah:
 { Shri A. V. Raghavan:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1757 on the 31st March, 1965 and state:

(a) whether all the State Governments have agreed to ban the lotteries and raffles; and

(b) if not, which of the State Governments have rejected the proposal and on what grounds?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) and (b). The Governments of Punjab and Madras have promised to consider the suggestion when the existing permission to lotteries expires. The State Governments of West Bengal, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh while accepting the policy of the Central Government that raffles should not be generally encouraged, have pleaded for exceptions to be made in favour of organisations serving charitable, and humanitarian causes, especially when the State Governments are satisfied that their management is in competent hands.

Rules on Police Firing

2167. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Home Ministry has sent model rules on police firing to the States; and

(b) if so, whether a copy thereof will be laid on the Table?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) A copy of Model Rules on the use of the force by the Police against