

(a) whether Government are aware that migration of the minority community from the sensitive border districts of Punjab is increasing; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken/propose to take to control the terrorists' activities in Punjab and stop migration of minority community?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) and (b). According to available information there has been some recent migration of the minority community from the sensitive border districts of Punjab. With a view to check terrorist activities and to instill a sense of confidence and security among the people concerned, the State Government have deployed adequate police and para-military forces and also opened SPO posts in the affected villages.

Punjab Militants' Activities

591. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to news-item captioned "Punjab militants call for unity", appearing in the "The Statemen" dated 22nd January, 1990;

(b) if so, whether Union Government have taken or propose to take steps to defuse the secessionist activities of the underground Khalistan Militant groups in Punjab; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c): The State Government have

taken a number of steps to curb the activities of the various militant groups including strengthening of the border out-posts and deployment of BSF and other para-military forces along the border and in the affected areas, and establishment of SPO posts in the villages. The Central Government is extending all assistance as and when required. Discussions have also been held with leaders of various political parties to find a solution to the problem.

Indo Pak Talks on Bilateral Issues

592. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether talks were held recently between India and Pakistan on bilateral issues; and

(b) if so, the main issues on which the discussion was held and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The third round of official-level discussions between India and Pakistan to finalise modalities for release of fishermen and fishing vessels captured by either side was held in New Delhi from 30 January-2 February, 1990. It was agreed to release all fishing boats and crew detained in the two countries by 31 March, 1990.

The opportunities of the visits in January, 1990 of Ambassador Abdul Sattar, as Special Envoy of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, and of Pakistan's Foreign Minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, as Special Envoy of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto in her capacity as chairperson of SAARC, were also utilised for a wide-ranging review of bilateral relations. Our concern at the evidence of Pakistan's involvement in terrorist activities directed against India, in Jammu &

Kashmir was suitably conveyed. It was reiterated that Jammu & Kashmir is an integral part of India, and any interference in our internal affairs would be unacceptable. The Simla Agreement, which is the bedrock of relations between the two countries expressly forbids the organisation, assistance or encouragement of any acts detrimental to the maintenance of peaceful and harmonious relations.

It was also agreed to continue discussions at all levels, including between Defence, Home and Water Resources Secretaries. The India-Pakistan Joint Commission would also meet in the first half of 1990.

Setting up of Fishing Harbour at Gopalpur in Orissa

593. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the proposal to set up a fishing harbour at Gopalpur in Orissa; and

(b) the progress made in the implementation of the project?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRIDEVI LAL) : (a) and (b). The proposal for the development of a Fishery Harbour at Gopalpur in Orissa at an estimated cost of Rs. 672.40 lakh was sanctioned by the Government of India in October 1989, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme viz. Landing and Berthing Facilities for Fishing Craft at Minor Ports. The project is to be executed by the Government of Orissa. The State Government have already initiated action for the construction of the project.

Installation of Electronic Telephone Exchanges in Madras

594. SHRI ERA ANBARASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to instal some more electronic telephone exchanges in Madras to clear the waiting list for the telephone connections;

(b) the total number of people on the waiting list under OYT and non-OYT schemes in Madras City; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ARIF MOHAMMAD KHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Total number of people on waiting list as on 6.3.90 are

OYT—4,944

Non-OYT—55,303

Total 60,247

(c) Total waiting list is likely to be cleared during 8th Plan period subjected to the availability of resources.

Clearing and Forwarding Agencies at Madras Port

595. SHRI ERA ANBARASU: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of clearing and forwarding agencies operating in Madras port;

(b) the total amount paid to them towards the clearing and forwarding charges